

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. L.]

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### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Straits and Malayan South African War Fund now amounts to \$103,383.

A subscription at Weihaiwei on behalf of the Widows and Orphans' Relief Fund realised £75.

Shanghai has subscribed the handsome sum of £8,000 to the War Relief Fund. Well done Shanghai!

Mr. Yap Kwan Seng, Captain China of Selangor, has subscribed \$10,000 to the War Relief Fund.

It is understood that the Empress Dowager, fearing the attitude of the people and officials in the provinces, has revoked the decree deposing of Kuang Hsu as Emperor.

H. M. S. *Linnæ* has left Singapore for Labuan and Sandakan, presumably to be at hand in case Mat Salleh gets away from the police force, and gives further trouble.

The body of Mr. John McCulloch Hood, chief engineer of the steamer *Kian Yang*, was found with life extinct on the foreshore at Singapore. Death was due to drowning.

The *Straits Times* have received the names of 159 applicants for the Singapore Rifle Volunteers. The paper offers a \$100 prize to the lady sending in the largest list of recruits.

The branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Kobe has moved into new and more commodious quarters, the Occidental Hotel being temporarily occupied. New premises are being erected.

The Shanghai Municipal Council have decided to give a public ball at the Town Hall to Prince Valdemar of Denmark, who has graciously promised to be present. It will take place early this month.

Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. yesterday informed us that they had received a wire to say that it is reported that the steamer *Airlie* has safely got off and is now anchored at Night Island.

The American troops have attacked Porac, capturing 41 rifles and 3,000 rounds of ammunition. Two American privates were wounded, and General Pio del Pilar, of the insurgent forces, surrendered to General McArthur.

The Cosmopolitan Club at Manila was recently raided by the Police and twenty-one prominent natives arrested. This is a change from Spanish rule when the authorities encouraged gambling and made a handsome revenue from it.

The Spanish gunboats, *Alava*, *Quiros* and *Villalobos*, were to be sold on the 31st ult. by public auction at Manila. Their guns and ammunition were to be sold separately subject to authorisation of the American military authorities.

The Japanese have enrolled 275 natives of Formosa as volunteers for three years' service. The Japanese are astonished at the splendid physique of the applicants, and it is reported that they will make fine soldiers if properly instructed.

A correspondent writing from Ningpo, says:—"We have had some very cold weather this winter. Wild birds were frozen and the countrymen were catching pheasants with their hands, while the deer were running into the yards for shelter."

The export of tea from Foochow to Europe now stands at 16,174,605 lbs. against a total last season of 12,976,578 lbs. This is considered a satisfactory improvement. The total exports to Australia and the United States and Canada will also show some improvement on last season's figures.

According to the statistics published in the *Osaka Asahi*, the total amount of the national indebtedness of Japan at the end of last year stood at ¥500,700,549, showing an increase of ¥87,418,775 over the amount at the end of the preceding year. The amount of various bonds issued last year was ¥97,865,750, and the amount redeemed ¥10,446,974.

The German Order of the Red Eagle, fourth class, has been conferred on Consul Krüger, at Manila; Mr. Philipp Arnhold, at present in London; Graf von Butler, at Shanghai; Joseph Welch, recently Chairman of the Shanghai Municipal Council; Mr. A. Korff (Melchers & Co.), Shanghai; Pastor Hackmann, of the German Church, Shanghai, and Consul Zimmermann, at Canton.

The ladies of Shanghai are actively working on behalf of Tommy Atkins at the front, and the Committee were able to send off two boxes on the 24th ult. one containing 50,000 cigarettes which were bought with some of the money kindly contributed, and the other a variety of offerings including ten dozen pocket handkerchiefs, worked by the ladies, slippers, caps, cigars, tobacco, sweets, cigarettes, socks, and slings.

A new German limited liability company has just been registered at Bangkok as the German-Siam Co., Ltd., of Bangkok. The object of the undertaking is given as "business industry of every kind, and eventually the construction of manufacturing enterprises and whatever appertains to the same." The duration of the Company is for the present fixed at five years. The original capital of the company amounts to Mks. 300,000, and the names of the partners are set out in the notification. Mr. Jacob Waldburger, a Swiss subject, has been appointed Manager and will sign for the company.

The approaching Japanese naval manoeuvres will be on an unprecedented scale. Forty ships are expected to take part in them, independently of torpedo craft, the squadrons of Yokosuka, Sasebo, and Kure contributing their quotas to swell the strength of the standing squadron. In addition to the line-of-battle ships *Fuji* and *Yasuhima*, it is hoped that the *Shikishima*, which left England on the 25th ult., will be able to take her place in the manoeuvres. This may be called Japan's first *post bellum* display. The date has not yet been fixed, but it will probably be some time between March 25th and April 10th.

The *Echo de Chine* states that a project has been formed by M. Doumer, Governor-General of French Indo-China, for connecting the French and Russian telegraph systems in China. The project includes the laying of a short cable to connect Cape St. Jacques, at the mouth of Don-Hsi, a river in Saigon, with Pulo Condor, an island about 80 miles from the mouth of Mekong, on the route from Bangkok to Singapore. The English cable connecting Haiphong and Foochow would be repurchased, and prolonged by an overhead wire to Kwangchow-wan, and thence a submarine cable would connect with the Russian system at Amoy.

### BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 28th January, the wife of P. W. IRVINE, of a daughter.

At Shanghai, on the 2nd February, the wife of W. J. CLENNELL, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, Hangchow, of a son.

On the 4th February, 1900, at "Ernee" Bungalow, Kowloon, the wife of G. ATZENROTH, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

At St. Paul's Church, Kandy, on the 10th January, by the Rev. F. G. Copplestone, Miss IRENE MABEL WILMOT, eldest daughter of the late Mr. E. P. WILMOT, of Derby Estate, Ulapane, to Mr. OWEN HAROLD WAIT, of the Public Works Department of Singapore.

On the 27th January, at St. Andrew's Cathedral, by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Singapore and Sarawak, ELIZABETH VIGINIA (LIZZIE), fourth daughter of H. OEHLERS, Esq., to HENRY SAMUEL FINCK.

On the 2nd instant, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Right Reverend the Bishop of Victoria, D.D., assisted by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., ERNEST HAMILTON SHARP, Barrister-at-Law, son of EDMUND HAMILTON SHARP, of Japan, to SARAH SHRUBSOLE (LILLY), daughter of the late ROGER CUNLIFFE, of Stoneleigh, Tunbridge Wells.

### DEATHS.

On the 26th January, at Shanghai, WILLIAM A. D. COOPER, M.D., aged 34 years.

On the 6th February, 1900, at Ernee Bungalow, Kowloon, MARTHA, the infant daughter of G. ATZENROTH, aged 2 days.

At his residence, Zetland Street, at 9.5 p.m. on Tuesday, the 6th February, 1900, DELFINO DE NORONHA, aged 75 years and 7 months.

On the 8th February, at "Cringleford," Robinson Road, after a short illness, WEI WING YU, eldest son of Hon. WEE A YUK, J.P., aged 18 years.

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 5th January arrived per P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, on the 3rd February (28 days); the American mail of the 6th January arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*, on the 7th February (31 days); and the German mail of the 8th January arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Bayern*, on the 7th February (30 days).



## THE DECREE OF THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER.

(Daily Press, 6th February.)

The news telegraphed by our Shanghai correspondent, that the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, impressed by the opposition of the people, has deemed it wise to revoke the decree dethroning KUANG HSU, will undoubtedly be received with immense gratification by the Chinese in the southern portion of the Empire. Foreigners who are interested in the welfare of China will also view the more recent action of this lady with considerable favour. We are not charitable enough for one moment to suppose that the vindication of the helpless EMPEROR is due to any philanthropic motives on the part of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER, or to any feelings of repentance generated in her breast at the enormity of her crime in disposing of him who is her lawful sovereign. Though she has seen fit to re-enthroned KUANG HSU, there is little doubt, after the previous attempts by her menials on his life, that the course the "Son of Heaven" will run on this earth will be brief, very brief! That an EMPEROR at this period of the world's progress, who ought to be in the full vigour of his early manhood, should be the shuttlecock to the battledore of a woman whose early days were spent in the humblest employment, in a country where of all lands, women are the least respected, is an anomaly for which a parallel in present or past history it would be difficult to discover. The legitimate governor of the many millions of China is of course KUANG HSU. The regency of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER was concluded, or should have, when he reached maturity. He is the real EMPEROR and in his name and under his seal is all authority in China given. To him alone is due the allegiance of the Viceroy, the officials and the people, and the position of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER towards him should be no more influence than that of a domestic relation. Her Imperial connection ceased when he became of age to rule; henceforth her duties should be those that fall within the domestic and moral sphere of a maiden-aunt. Hitherto the Chinese have failed to recognise this; the word of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER has been law, a very terrible and swift law to those who have dared to disobey it. She is undoubtedly a clever woman, or she, rising from the obscurity and questionable morality of a singing girl's life, would never have occupied the position she does to-day. Had she possessed virtues in place of the unscrupulous traits in her character, the exercise of which have made her name abhorred, her reign would have been as illustrious as that of the gentle and good lady who rules the destinies of the British Empire. To gratify her whims, her ignorance and arrogance, she has brought the ancient Empire of China to the verge of ruin, and her recent decree was almost her final act of destruction. Confident in the strength which accumulated wealth, bands of eunuchs, and jealousies of the rival factions at court, bestow, she has imagined her position impregnable. The provinces have been ruled by her dictum, for who has dared to gainsay it? The opposition and distrust existing between the Foreign Powers in Eastern matters have been recognised and used by her to advantage. Are we not informed that even Russia, the latest declared supporter of the "Open Door" policy has already evinced its earnestness by promising to support this wicked woman in her treasonable work!

But it would appear in this, her latest

act of oppression, the EMPRESS-DOWAGER has over-reached herself. In spite of the silence of the people under her repeated acts of cruelty, injustice and treason, all sense of deference to the rightful ruler has not been lost. Had the EMPRESS-DOWAGER foreseen this she would probably have been in less haste to issue those decrees, supposed to emanate from the mouth of KUANG HSU. Had she played with her customary ability she would have got rid of KUANG HSU first and then appointed PUT SING to fill his somewhat unenviable shoes. But the Imperial actress bungled matters, as she is beginning to find to her cost. The present situation reveals the innate loyalty of the Chinese people, for while they can have no regard for the helpless nonentity who fills the throne they certainly have respect for the institution itself. That respect for the throne is so great that it has caused the ancient Viceroy LIU KUNG YI, with fifty of his officials, to proceed to Peking and personally remonstrate with the perpetrator of such an act of injustice. It has induced commercial Chinese at the risk of their lives and confiscation of their property to assemble publicly in large numbers and openly resent the dethronement of their EMPEROR.

In short the blunder of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER has to some extent created public opinion in China, a lever hitherto lacking. That public opinion is unanimous that the EMPEROR should be retained, and if that public opinion be disregarded there are evident signs of a revolution that will shake China throughout her length and breadth. It is questionable even now if the action of this wretched woman has not given such an impetus to movements having for their avowed object the overthrow of the dynasty and the introduction of reforms. Certainly the leaders of the rebellious legions in the Yangtze Valley and in South China could certainly not be accused of treason against the throne in attempting to overthrow the regime of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER. The Yangtze provinces, Shantung, and Kwangtung in the South, are overrun with rebellious secret societies, which need only capable leaders and organisation to develop a serious rebellion. Even by their means China may yet work out her own salvation, but one thing is evident that China in addition to the burden of all her other troubles cannot bear the experience of an irresponsible woman one day dethroning the EMPEROR, and the next restoring him and dethroning his successor. The wonder is that such a creature as the EMPRESS-DOWAGER should be allowed to reside in Peking and retain her unwholesome influence so long. She has no hesitation in murdering her most enlightened subjects wholesale without regard to their ability, work or rank. It would save much loss of life, conflict between the Powers, and undoubtedly save China from her otherwise impending fate, if the lady who believes she can govern affairs at Peking were put under some form of restraint. An individual who illuses persistently his fellows, and who is a danger to the public is placed by the community in a position in which he can neither injure himself nor his fellows. For the peace of the world and China especially it would be well if the Powers, or the leading Chinese officials would so deal with this objectionable creature at Peking, otherwise the people may undertake the task themselves with disastrous consequences.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals has received a donation of \$30 from the Fresh Fish Guild and \$12.20 from the Baptist Mission Church.

## THE REMOVAL OF KUANG HSU.

(Daily Press, 3rd February.)

There is little doubt that the final deposition of the Emperor KUANGSU is looked upon with disfavour through the whole of China. The mercantile classes do so often place themselves in the predicament of open expression of their political views, yet on this subject they have openly expressed their indignation. The affair has been long in contemplation and the train has been carefully laid; it has however had as yet but one effect, and that is to emphasize the personal and sinister influence of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER. The question is not one of pro or anti-foreign influence, but one in which the very existence of China as a nation is concerned, and resolves itself into the alternative; shall the Empire submit being dictated to by a woman, bad in every respect, personally and as well as politically; or shall it once for all determine to get rid of the scum which for the last forty years has gathered over and infected the whole body politic? At various times in her past history China has evolved leaders, who by honesty and courage, have purified the land restored her to her position amongst nations; but the worst of the present crisis is that not one man has come to the front with the national capacity to be a leader of men, and the whole nation led by its blind guides has sunk deeper and deeper in the mass of corruption. We hear much by persons who have not studied the inner workings of European governments of the benevolent intervention of the foreign representations. Why do not the Ministers interfere in the cause of law and order, and refuse to acknowledge the new regency? Such would be wisest if they do not recognise the condition of affairs in Europe, nor the feelings of hate and envy only waiting the opportunity to be let loose. France, for instance, soured by her isolation and with her hand turned against every man, is only bent on stirring up strife, she little cares where. Russia, or a large section of her statesmen, is still in the incipient state, when the instinct of conquest, rather than the ambition of improvement is uppermost; and to this such instinct France shamelessly panders, in the hope that her big friend may injure some of her neighbours, she is well nigh indifferent with. Germany is in a frenzy of militarism, which she permits to becloud her better judgment. Austria suffers from her compound nationality, and Italy, though she may be a useful ally, has no strength nor perseverance to become a leading factor. In one thing, though from different reasons and in a different way, all unite, and that is in jealousy of England, and all the more that recent affairs have thrown England into more than usually friendly relations with her own kindred people in the United States. The States and England, in China, have interests which, although by no means identical have much in common, and those interests rightly or wrongly by the Continental Powers are looked upon as contrary to their own. Now the traditional policy of England in China from the beginning has ever been to preserve the *status quo*, and to prevent the dismemberment of the Empire. With this object in view she assisted the government to put down the Taiping Rebellion, and with this view she, rather than strike a blow which would still more weaken the central power, by degrees coincided in many political movements of which she approved little. She, last year, though expressing her dissatisfaction, fell in with the suppres-



sion of the Empress, and it was a fact well known that she would look with displeasure on any attempt to use personal violence. This position of affairs doubtless had its influence in stiffening the viceroys; at all events the two most powerful, CHANG CHI-TUNG and LIU KWEN-YI, expressed their dissatisfaction, and the EMPRESS DOWAGER, doubting her ability, and finding threats and persuasion both equally ineffective, dropped for the time the further execution of her plan. Circumstances, however, favoured her. LIU KWEN-YI, the Viceroy at Nanking, had passed the age usually meted out even to a Viceroy in China and only, a sense of duty kept him at his post. The mission of KANG-YI, sent to extort contributions from the provinces, convinced her that there was no man of sufficient independence of character prepared to resist her demands, and CHANG CHI-TUNG, finding himself alone, permitted himself to be converted. All that was required then was to act on KANG-YI's report and recall LIU to Peking, to leave the coast clear and this was accordingly done. With regard to the foreign Powers, neither France nor Russia, were likely to throw any obstacle in the way, both in fact have been looking anxiously for the reversion of the sick man's heritage, and would hail with satisfaction anything likely to hasten the end. Another possible obstacle was LI HUNG-CHANG. Although before the war with Japan, LI was a *persona grata* with the Empress Dowager, he has of late been evidently *de trop*. Although nominally restored to favour after the *coup d'état* of September, 1898, his absence has been evidently more agreeable than his presence. As one of the first fruits of that measure, he found himself sent into honourable banishment to the Yellow River, where all his recommendations were quietly shelved. Some three months ago, he was appointed, nominally, Minister of Finance, and told to amend the Tariff, but before any opportunity was given him of setting to work, he was remitted to the Liang Kwang to clear up some of the mess left by TAN CHUNG-LIN. His older brother HUNG CHANG, had made the name of Li stink in the south, and the experience that Pechili had had of his own administration was little recommendation for the appointment. The EMPRESS DOWAGER, however, felt that his presence in Peking would be like the death's hand at the banquet. He had done her dirty work but he was of no further utility, and prudence reminded her that, as he still had a following, any open display of ingratitude to her quondam henchman might be resented in an unpleasant way. So he was sent to Canton in the full knowledge that, do what he might in that hot-bed of corruption, the result would be the loss of the small fragment of his reputation still left to him. Such were some of the factors that pointed out to the ambitious and ignorant woman, who had enjoyed for upwards of thirty years the delights of power, that the time has come, when she must either make a bold bid or retire to obscurity; if she could indeed look forward to being permitted to live in obscurity. Nor were instigations from without wanting. The influence of England at Peking under incapable representations in China and ill-informed ministers at home has been steadily declining. Lately France and Russia have been steadily pressing these facts on the Tsung-li Yamen, and every advantage has been taken of the present position of affairs in Africa to drive it home to willing ears. When then we hear by telegraph of the general apathy of the European Press on the subject of the

révolution at Peking, it behoves us to warn our English confreres that the interests concerned are far more than the substitution of a PUT SING for a KUANGSU, and concern the very existence of China as a state, and the continuance of our prestige and our influence in Eastern Asia.

### THE OPEN DOOR.

(Daily Press, 7th February.)

The information concerning the action of the United States in regard to establishing the policy of the "Open Door" in China, is not so definite as many would wish. From the news cabled to the Far East from London many inclined to the belief that the United States Government had made some official statement in connection with the matter. Such has not been the case. The news emanated from the correspondents in Washington of two London morning unofficial papers, who obtained their information from sources. Consequently the information does not carry the weight of an official utterance, but there is much reason to credit it with accuracy, though the reason for absolute official secrecy is not easy to comprehend. Great Britain's reply was the first to be received, which is interpreted as additional evidence of the friendliness and almost identical interests in the Far East between the United States and Great Britain. Russia is said to have raised certain conditions and dealt in generalities, which naturally are to be distrusted. The recent backing of the EMPRESS-DOWAGER's scandalous action is ample support of such distrust. Finally it is interesting to note that the United States Administration is highly gratified at the result of its endeavour to preserve unrestricted commercial conditions in China, and is actively proceeding with the development of its plans to provide for the working of the "Open Door" policy. Probably no power is in a better position at the present to undertake the task than America, as Great Britain upon whom the work would naturally have fallen, is too busily engaged elsewhere. The undertaking is not so easy as it appears on the surface and its progress is not likely to be facilitated by any more Imperial edicts such as the last. That it may be completed soon is the hope of every commercial man having business with China.

### NEED OF PREPARATION IN THE PACIFIC.

(Daily Press, 8th February.)

It is apparently hopeless to convince the military authorities in England that there is any use in being prepared for eventualities, and the consequence is that on the outbreak of every war of consequence something of first-class importance is discovered to be missing, and while it is being put in order thousands of lines are sacrificed, and the country jeopardised. It was so at the beginning of the Crimean war when during actual hostilities the whole had to be swept out; it was so at the beginning of the Egyptian campaign, and now in South Africa we find a similar unreadiness sitting like an incubus upon our army. We heard much for instance a few years ago about the want of mounted infantry, and the Horse Guards gave us to understand that the want was being supplied, and yet when we find ourselves opposed to a country of horseriders the cavalry arm has been well nigh forgotten. So of artillery; most of the modern improvements of the arm have been initiated in England; we possess all the means for manufacture, and our guns when made will bear competition with the first. Yet when

we send a large army to Africa guns are forgotten, and we find the enemy better provided than ourselves. Now there is every sign that our next war will be in or about the Pacific, and we may fairly ask have we made any preparation? We have a fine navy but is this all we want? For our own navy to be effective we require stations where it may refit and coal. We have the stations, but are they fit? and will not the navy find that its work will be cut out in protecting the stations? Is Singapore fit to stand a siege even for a month unprotected by the fleet? Is not our own Hongkong mainly dependent on our ships of war. There are uses for a fleet, we take it, other than lying still, and permitting our ports to be blockaded, but unless we vastly augment our fleet, or fortify our stations, this seems likely to be the only prospect before our sailors. When we look away from China, we find the same neglect rampant. Look at Sydney, or at Esquimaux for instance, are these important naval centres any better than Hongkong or Singapore? Have either of them the means of refitting, for instance, a disabled fleet? Could either turn out even a gunboat unassisted? Have either the means of accommodating a garrison of say ten thousand men? If we looked across the water to San Francisco we find the United States Government in a position to turn out line of battleships directly in to her Pacific waters, is there any reason why our own ports should be behind hand? Vancouver Island is admirably situated as the oublier of a great nation, and only needs a little encouragement to become a tower of strength instead of a source of weakness. Many years ago we started at Esquimaux foundations of a great naval station. In those days the British fleet was paramount in the Pacific, and it was amply sufficient for the purpose; but what was ample forty or even twenty years ago, when an odd wooden cruiser was all the naval strength possessed in the Pacific by any nation but ourselves, is ludicrously insufficient now when every European state keeps a large fleet in these waters. Last year we were indeed informed that that the War Office had it in contemplation to strengthen the station. That a British garrison was to be permanently maintained, and a home regiment stationed there, supported by large detachments of the Canadian militia. Like most things contemplated by the War Office, it remains in a state of contemplation. Esquimaux is a pretty little harbour; it is easy of access and easy of egress, but it may well be doubted if it be not too much exposed as a first-class naval station. But there are in Vancouver abundance of harbours almost equally accessible and admirably adapted for the purpose. Vancouver possesses abundant supplies of coal already worked and is known to possess great deposits of iron only waiting development. British Columbia is becoming one of the important metal-producing countries of the world, and has all Canada at its back. Vancouver is, in fact, the outlook of England over the Pacific. From it she can strike at any point; it is but twelve days steaming to Japan, three weeks to Hongkong, less than a month to Australia. With the exception of the United States no nation is so favourably situated on the Pacific, connected as Vancouver is with Eastern Canada, and England by the Canadian Pacific, one of the best appointed railways in the world. It is on a par with the usual state of unpreparedness of the War Office to find all these natural advantages neglected. No minister has indeed ventured to bring them forward, and they are probably waiting,



like the improved artillery in the Transvaal, till some dire necessity forces them on public attention.

### HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On the afternoon of the 3rd inst., the usual fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held. The President (Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works, Dr. Clark, (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Hartigan, Major Brown, Mr. J. McKie, Mr. Chan A. Fuk, Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

Dr. Clark, in the absence of the Vice-president, proposed:—"That the Board advise the Government to close, with as little delay as possible, the Chinese Cemeteries at Mount Davis, Caroline Hill, and Matawai in Kowloon, and the existing Plague Cemeteries in Hongkong, and to open instead a Chinese Cemetery and a Plague Cemetery either on the island of Chungui or on the island of Tamma, and a second Chinese Cemetery as well as a Plague Cemetery somewhere to the north of Matawai and either upon or close under the range of hills that bound the Kowloon Peninsula on the north." He said he had not had the opportunity of seeing Captain May to learn from him exactly what his views were on this point, but he took it that they were very much in accord in thinking it was quite time that more spaces were opened out so as to give them more room for the overcrowded Chinese in the city. At the present moment they had at the eastern end of the city the outlet blocked by a large Chinese cemetery and the various non-Chinese cemeteries. On the western end of the city the outlet was blocked by a still larger cemetery, to say nothing of the Plague Cemetery and the Infectious Diseases Hospital. He thought the probability was that the city would spread eastward, rather than westwards. There were various reasons why that should be so, and when one came to think that every year they had some 4,500 interments in the immediate neighbourhood of the city, and that these interments absorbed no less than three acres of land every year, he thought that that was sufficient reason why they should, if possible, direct these interments to some other place. This was extremely valuable land. It was becoming more and more valuable as building sites every year. The city could not spread up the hills, so far as the Chinese were concerned. It must spread out in one or the other direction, and he thought it would probably spread eastwards; so that if they closed these cemeteries and diverted the dead bodies they would be doing a great deal to relieve the enormous congestion of human beings in the centre of the city. In No. 5 district there was a population of 1,000 persons to the acre, which was a most excessive rate of overcrowding. The only remedy for that was to spread the city towards the eastern and western suburbs. Mr. May suggested Tamma Island or Chungui Island. Personally he thought Tamma would be more difficult, Chungui Island might be inaccessible during rough weather. Of course it was a question for the Government to consider whether free transit should not be given for Chinese dead bodies to the new cemeteries. He thought himself it would be essential. But that was a matter which could be settled afterwards. The only point so far as he was concerned was how to move the resolution before him, which resolution practically meant that all interments in Mount Caroline Cemetery to the east and Mount Davies Cemetery to the west should cease. He believed the same matter was mooted some years ago. On that occasion an objection was raised by the Chinese to dead bodies being taken out of the colony. Tamma did not then belong to the British Government; neither did Chungui for that matter. But now that objection disappeared. There might be some others on the part of the Chinese, but it seemed to him that the great objection would be done away with.

Major Brown seconded, but suggested that sites in Kowloon would be easier of access.

Mr. Chan A. Fuk said there was no great objection to having these two Chinese cemeteries

closed either at the present time or a few years hence. That must come sooner or later, but one of the principal objections to having these new cemeteries over the harbour was the means and ways of transport. Rich Chinese could take care of themselves. As a matter of fact they did not find the dead bodies of rich Chinamen ever being buried in a Hongkong cemetery. They were removed to the interior of China or to Canton. It was the poorer classes of Chinese who might be subjected to a hardship. He would propose as an amendment that some means should be recommended whereby the difficulty as to transport might be remedied.

Mr. OSBORNE seconded the amendment.

Dr. HARTIGAN strongly supported the motion. He remarked that the only objection was as to the expense of transport. But in a few years time it would be absolutely necessary to do something.

The Hon. R. D. ORMSBY spoke against the proposal. He said Mount Davies was studded with cemeteries all round, and that was the first time he had heard it was overcrowded. The last time an extension was granted the surveyor had no difficulty in working off a few acres.

Ultimately the resolution was carried, Dr. Clark meeting Mr. Chan A. Fuk's objection by inserting in his motion the words, "on condition that free transit is provided by the Government for dead bodies and mourners."

The PRESIDENT, answering a suggestion of Mr. Chan A. Fuk, said he should think the Government in considering this question would consult the directors of the Tung Wah Hospital.

### CATTLE AND INOCULATION FOR RINDERPEST IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

Mr. C. V. Ladds (Colonial Veterinary Surgeon) submitted a report, dated January 17th, on the requirements for a bacteriological laboratory and cattle inoculation for rinderpest in the New Territory. In the course of his report Mr. Ladds says:—

"In my opinion it would require a large staff of officers to effectually regulate the importation of cattle from the mainland into the New Territory, and on this account I am more inclined to advise the inoculation treatment for rinderpest of all animals which are kept in the extension itself. Given a little encouragement and assistance from the Government, and under proper and constant supervision, with a view to the prevention of animal diseases, the new Territory should in a very short time produce sufficient animals, both cattle and swine to enable the colony to be self-supporting in this respect, instead of being as at present almost entirely dependent upon outside sources.

"Comparatively few cattle are driven through the New Territory from the mainland for the Hongkong Market—only 1083 in 1899, as compared with about 20,000 brought direct from Canton, Hoi Fung, and other places by water.

"To build and equip a suitable laboratory on the Kowloon side, as recommended in my minute of 19-12-99, would necessitate a large expenditure, and I therefore suggest as an alternative measure that a temporary laboratory be established in part of the building which now constitutes the old Tung Wah Mortuary at Kennedytown, which has I believe been recently acquired by the Government. These premises could be easily adapted for this purpose at a comparatively small cost, and for a long time would serve equally well. The equipment of such an establishment and the purchase of the necessary cattle would not exceed \$3,500 to \$4,000 in addition to the cost of alterations which would be required. The annual up-keep might be estimated roughly as follows:—food for 12 months \$700; up-keep of apparatus, chemicals, and incidental expenses \$200; gas \$100; ice \$50; an intelligent coolie who could be trained to take charge of the animals, clean apparatus, and look after the place generally \$120. A European assistant would also be required, and instead of engaging an additional man who would devote his whole time to laboratory duties I would recommend the appointment of the Inspector in charge of the Animal Depots at Kennedytown as assistant at a salary of \$300 per annum in addition to his ordinary pay, as such duties would be entirely outside those of his substantive appointment, and they would also involve

a considerable amount of extra time and attention, owing to the great care which such work demands. I think this plan would be much better in the first instance than engaging a specialist man, and is certainly worthy of a trial—barring which it would be far cheaper. Total estimate per annum for maintenance \$1530, or say in round figures \$1500. Such a system as proposed would if carried out effectually do away with the necessity of quarantining any animals which might be brought into the extension from time to time, for the reason that should they carry any infection of rinderpest with them, those already in the Territory having been inoculated would be proof against the disease and so prevent its spreading amongst them, as has been the case hitherto. After the initial expense of starting the enterprise had been incurred the Laboratory might be made self-supporting by imposing a small annual fee of say 40 cents per head for each animal inoculated which the owners ought to willingly pay for protection against such various losses as they have formerly sustained.

"Counting the total number of cattle at present upon the extension as 4000, this at 40 cents per head would bring in \$1,600 per annum, being \$100 more than my estimate for maintenance; but even if it were thought advisable to inoculate gratis, which might after all be the better plan, the outlay would be small and would eventually be amply repaid by the results.

The scheme is one of some magnitude, and, as may be gathered from the foregoing, the majority of the scientific part of the work would fall upon me, both at the Laboratory and also in the new Territory, and I trust therefore, that should the Government see fit to adopt it, they will at the same time consider the question of additional remuneration to me for such services.

Dr. Clarke minuted:—"All cattle in the New Territory should be inoculated against rinderpest gratis. It would not be necessary to exclude the few cattle that are brought into the New Territory overland (for the reasons given by Mr. Todds), so long as some means (such as branding) are used to distinguish the inoculated from the uninoculated cattle and the police are instructed to report any instances of cattle not inoculated. The Board should I think strongly support Mr. Todds' inexpensive scheme for a laboratory for the manufacture of the necessary serum."

On the motion of the Hon. R. D. ORMSBY, seconded by Dr. CLARK, the report was adopted, and it was decided to forward it to Government.

A sub-committee, composed of Dr. Clark and Dr. Hartigan, with Mr. Ladds, was appointed to go into the several matters raised in the report.

### THE SUGGESTED EXTENSION OF THE CLOSE TIME.

At a recent meeting the Board passed a resolution recommending the Government to extend the time during which the selling of pleasants and partridges so as to include the month of March and be made to apply also to the sale of quail.

A reply was received from the Hon. Colonial Secretary which said:—"I am directed to inform you that His Excellency sees no necessity for any change in the Ordinance at present.

The following minutes were appended:—

Mr. McKie:—"The quail is a migratory bird that does not breed anywhere in the southern provinces; and therefore requires no protection.

Dr. W. Hartigan:—"All birds are unwholesome as food during the breeding season, and as such unwholesome food the Market Inspectors have a perfect right to seize them if exposed for sale."

Mr. Fung Wa Chun:—"I agree with Mr. McKie."

Major Brown:—"Certain birds during the breeding season are tasteful and poor in condition, but they cannot, therefore, be called 'unwholesome food.' Protection is enforced in England not to protect the public but the birds, and of the quail does not breed here obviously protection is unnecessary."

### THE DUMPING OF RUBBISH IN THE HARBOUR.

The question of dumping rubbish in the harbour and the power to arrest offenders therefor was raised, and on the motion of Dr.



CLARK, seconded by Mr. McKim, it was decided to ask the advice of the Attorney-General on the subject.

#### A WELL TO BE CLOSED.

Mr. F. Browne (Government Analyst) reported that the water in the well situate at 35, Queen's Road Central, was so tainted with impurities as to be unfit for potable purposes and likely to prove injurious to health.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Dr. CLARK, it was decided to order the well to be closed.

#### HYDROPHOBIA IN HONGKONG.

Information concerning a recent fatal case of hydrophobia in Hongkong was submitted.

Sanitary Inspector Burnet reported on the 16th January that he had made enquires into the death of Ng Li Kin, of 1, Rienacker street, and found that the deceased was bitten by a dog, the property of Ngai Sun and Co., engineers, Queen's Road East, on or about the 19th November. The mother of the child took her to No. 2 Police Station, and she was sent to the Government Civil Hospital, where the wound was dressed. She was not detained in Hospital. She had two scars on left cheek said to have been the result of the bite. She developed symptoms of hydrophobia on the 11th January, and died at 7 p.m. on the 13th January. The dog which bit the deceased was said to have bitten other people.

On the 17th January Sanitary Inspector Burnet said he had been to the address given by the mother of the child to try and find out the names and addresses of other people said to have been bitten. The people in there denied all knowledge of the case. He found that the mother of the child was under treatment by Dr. Chung, she having been bitten by the deceased child. Police Inspector Cuthbert, in a report to the Captain Superintendent of Police, dated Jan. 19th, said:—A report was made at No. 2 Station by a married woman that her daughter had been bitten on the face by a dog supposed to be ownerless, but which had been seen a good deal about the premises of Ngai Sun, in Queen's Road East. The dog was captured immediately after, but made its escape again. Later the same day it was brought to the station by some coolies, who said it had died on the way. It was dragged to the station with a rope round its neck and had the appearance of having been strangled. The dog was known to the police to be ownerless, and several attempts were made to capture it without result. No complaint was ever made to the police about the dog having bitten any one before.

Dr. Hartigan said:—Only yesterday I saw seven dogs close to the Government Offices, four being without collars. The police seem to take no notice of these stray dogs. They should be captured.

Major Brown:—There are far too many stray dogs in the colony. I think all such should be caught and if not claimed within 48 hours destroyed.

#### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The death rate for the colony of Hongkong for the week ended 6th January was 17.8, against 24.1 for the previous week and 14.2 for the corresponding week last year; the rate for the week ended 13th January was 20 against 13.5 for the corresponding week last year, while the rate for the week ended 20th January was 23, against 14.4 for the corresponding week last year.

The mortality returns for Macao show that during the week ended January 7th there were 50 deaths, including four from bubonic plague. Of the 87 deaths which took place during the following week six were due to bubonic plague.

#### AN IMPORTANT REPORT.

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Mr. E. Osborne, and Dr. Clark, the select committee of the Board who were appointed to report on the Sanitary Surveyor's report on the latrines and urinals of the city of Victoria, presented their report, which deals with certain suggestions made by Mr. Ormsby. Dealing with the latrine question, the committee express the opinion that two latrines at least should always be in process of building, until the needs of the city are fully met. The report continues:—

"A sub-committee of the Board consisting of the Principal Civil Medical Officer, the Medical Officer of Health, and Mr. Edward

Osborne, have already strongly recommended the appointment of three inspectors, who, with three Chinese foremen, should devote the whole of their time to the abatement of house-drainage nuisance. That recommendation was adopted by the Board and forwarded to the Government on the 29th September, 1899.

"The suggestion that the night-soil coolies should be paid a small fee on delivering at the boats is one that must await the expiration of the present contract which runs till September 30th, 1901.

"Plans for an underground latrine are now being prepared in the Public Works Department, and should the experiment prove a success no doubt other similar latrines will be built in various parts of the city.

"The committee are not in favour of the recommendation that all the night-soil from the Hill District should be discharged into the Peak Road sewer, but would suggest that to avoid the carriage of night-soil from this district to the boats alongside the Praya a small properly terraced farm should be laid out at the upper part of the Aberdeen Valley (avoiding the watershed of the Aberdeen waterworks), and that all night-soil should be carried there and properly trenched (as is done in India). The land should be used for raising Guinea grass, which is largely in demand in this colony as fodder for cattle—or some other similar crop for the feeding of cattle.

"Additional urinals are undoubtedly urgently needed, and this want has also been brought to the attention of the Government during recent years. The committee are of the opinion that with a view to the saving of the water supply, further experiments might be made with sawdust-filled receptacles, if a few suitable buildings are put up in convenient localities."

The following minutes were appended:—

Major Brown:—I am strongly in favour of underground urinals and latrines being constructed. They are a success in other places, so why should the same result not be attained in Hongkong. Chinese using the bucket system ought to be required to register.

The Vice President:—"Is the statement that the appointment of three drainage inspectors was adopted by the Board correct? If it was adopted it must have been by a majority, as I did not vote for so large an increase I think. The idea to have a sewage farm at the Peak seems excellent." The Vice President subsequently minuted:—"I see it was adopted by a majority, only two members not voting."

#### THE RAID ON THE RATS.

Mr. OSBORNE said that on the 10th January the Board advertised that rat traps could be obtained free of charge at the office of the Sanitary Board. Two weeks had elapsed since then and they had received 37 rats, all of which were, he understood, picked up on the street, not hunted for. They had issued 137 traps, of which only four or five had gone to Chinese, so that up to the moment their efforts at rat-catching were a distinct failure. He thought they would be more successful if they adopted the course taken in London during the great plague, that was, sent their dust-carts rounds calling out "Bring out your rats," instead of "Bring out your dead." The foreman could pay for the rats.

Dr. CLARK pointed out that there was not a Portuguese foreman in charge of a dust-cart, and he did not think it would be wise to entrust these coolie scavengers with which to pay for the rats brought to them. There was a Portuguese foreman in each district and a European inspector, and the matter might be left with them. If Mr. Osborne would accept that amendment, he would second his motion.

Mr. OSBORNE said he was agreeable, adding that he thought there was a Portuguese foreman in charge of each cart.

The motion was carried.

This was all the business of public interest.

The annual meeting of the Shanghai Race Club was held on the 27th ult., Mr. Alex. McLeod presiding. The report and accounts having been adopted, the retiring Stewards, Messrs. A. von Butler, B. A. Clarke, F. Gove, W. S. Jackson, John Liddell, A. McLeod, and J. A. Pond, were unanimously re-elected.

#### WEST RIVER NOTES.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

I again venture, Mr. Editor, to intrude on your valuable space with a few observations on the West River and kindred topics, and I am the more emboldened to do so by the fact that the authorship of the first set of "Notes" and other *jeux d'esprit* of a similar nature have been wrongfully and almost maliciously attributed to various respectable and esteemed residents on the West River. I, therefore, take this early opportunity of making the *amende honorable* in expressing regret at the insults they have been subjected to.

With a laudable desire to provide your readers with matter equally entertaining and instructive as that which appears with such pleasing regularity in the pages of a deservedly popular and widely-read journal published in the North, I have diligently perused and with no little pains, digested the most recent productions from the pens of its own and also occasional correspondents. I find myself, however (to use an Oom Paulian expression), "staggered" at the abundance and variety of copy which appears to be at their disposal. We have here no hospitals to open, no distressed converts, no vicious officials, no interesting weddings attended by missionaries, both "double" and "single." My Muse is silent on the subject of "Boxers," and delightful occasions enhanced by lectures and light refreshments are, so far, denied us. But we have Pirates, and in spite of the fact that their doings and characteristics have already been discussed *ad nauseam* in the Colonial press, I venture to relate certain entertaining incidents which, I believe, are not generally known.

On a recent occasion when a launch captured by pirates was pursued by a Customs' cruiser and also a British river steamer, the Sikh watchman on the latter vessel—a dusky Apollo in a yellow turban—was discovered, happily before much harm had been done, enthusiastically emptying the contents of his revolver, not into the pirate craft, but into the Customs' launch! Now a Commissioner of Customs happened to be an interested spectator of the chase on board the Customs' launch, and advancing the hypothesis (fortunately improbable that the Sikh's) bullet had found a billet in the breast, or other vulnerable part of the Commissioner what an interesting case would thus be presented before our local courts! A British subject in the execution (albeit misdirected) of his duty, shooting a Chinese official of German nationality on the inland waters of China! I will not labour the point, but I offer it, as it stands, for the consideration of the legal fraternity in their leisure moments.

The method of conducting a piracy on these waters is so simple and neat, that I make no apology for explaining how it is done. A launch is at anchor off a riverside town with a passenger-boat astern, ready to start. At a given moment arrive sampans filled with men of the baser sort, some of whom board the launch, others the "tow." The launch people, probably asleep or "eating rice," are informed that any opposition on their part will be considered an "unfriendly act," and are briefly requested to weigh anchor immediately. The new arrivals on the "tow," after the manner of Brer Rabbit, temporarily lie low and dispose themselves in the boxes devoted to passengers. The launch proceeds at full speed on her journey. Should the pilot in charge have the bad taste to whistle or otherwise attract attention when passing a Customs' station, a revolver pointed at his head usually induces him to alter his mind. Should the party happen to pass a Chinese fort occupied by "braves," say at Chutonsan, little harm is done because, even when the alarm is given, time is required to assemble the sleeping and scattered soldiery and they, having assumed the correct firing attitude (which consists in bringing the left leg sharply up to the right, bending the back into a bow and stamping twice with the right foot), and selected cartridges suitable to their rifle from a miscellaneous assortment stored in the cook-house, most probably fire into the air or any other direction but the right one!



Having successfully passed this Charybdis, there remains to be negotiated the Scylla of a British gunboat.

He is most likely under banked fires and thus unable to follow, and, moreover, the Captain on board by the regulations, has to satisfy himself as to whether the launch is actually in the hands of pirates or not. By the time he has settled this point she is far away. When a convenient spot is reached the 'tow' is slipped, the booty (which has meanwhile been carefully collected by the party on the passenger-boat) is transferred to the launch, and tracks are made up a creek to the pirate village. Here pirates and cargo are landed before an admiring crowd, and the launch, being of no further use, is allowed to return. Can anything be more beautifully simple?

Talking of China "braves" reminds me of an amusing spectacle which may be witnessed any evening at one of the West River ports. It having been found necessary to protect the Custom House against piratical attack, a guard of soldiers is deputed to keep the watch on the front verandah. They usually arrive about sundown—four men and a white dog. The first two carry bedding and cooking utensils of a portable description, the rear guard bear rifles, neatly labelled with the owner's name in red paper and adorned, as to the barrel, with pendant pork chops. Pipes and a drum complete the outfit. The bedding having been disposed in a suitable corner and the cooking arrangements being found in order, the drum is beaten with skilful rattantando for the space of three minutes; the guard light their pipes and settle themselves to discuss the market price of rice and other food-stuffs in relation to their pay, preparatory to turning in, and the white dog takes up a commanding position on the front steps where—it must be conceded—he maintains a most efficient watch.

A local wag was cruel enough, on last New Year's Eve, when the younger members of the community were celebrating the auspicious occasion by a torchlight procession with gong accompaniment, to blow a fog-horn in the ear of one of the sleeping guards (Cerebus having previously been propitiated) and violently beat the aforesaid gong in the passive face of another. It is said Chinese have no nerves, but these two by their actions falsified the dictum. I have seldom seen people so startled.

At a fire in the Spring of last year this same guard distinguished themselves in no mean manner. Reinforced by their comrades from the city and fully armed, they successfully guarded the entrance of the Custom House (which was not on fire) against all comers, while some squirted water into the spectators' faces with toy syringes procured from the local fire department, and others ran hither and thither with bowls of water, with which they impartially deluged the smoking timbers. Thanks to their efforts, ably seconded by a landing party from a British gunboat, the fire was got under and a general conflagration averted.

The mention of gunboats leads me to record a serious loss the West River has recently sustained, owing to the involuntary collision of Torpedo Boat No. 36 with a sunken rock in the River. The sympathy of all who know him goes out to Mr. Macgill is this misfortune, for which he was by no means responsible. He has successfully run the fast little craft for the last four months up and down the tortuous channels of the West River, and besides keeping her in a spick and span condition sufficient to satisfy the most censorious dockyard official, he has, by his manly and cheerful presence endeared himself to all with whom he has come in contact. As long as the British Navy can train and turn out warrant officers of his stamp we may rest assured that the backbone is solid to the core and that, come what may, our first line of defence will not be found wanting. Here's to you, Mister Macgill!

And as I have become personal, I may as well go one step farther, and mention another Irishman who is shortly to leave us. I allude

to Mr. A. C. Cross, the acting Commissioner of Customs at Samshui since June 1898. He has been able in his official relations to combine the *suaviter in modo* with the *fortiter in re* in a peculiarly happy manner, and socially he has acquired a well-deserved reputation for hospitality and good fellowship. He goes to Yochow, the newly opened port in Hunan where I believe, the intruding and unnecessary foreigner is regarded much in the same light as the Yorkshire man regarded the passing stranger, when he advised a friend of whom he has enquired the visitor's identity and received an evasive answer 'to leave 'alf a brick at 'im. As the new Yochow Commissioner is a man of no small stature and the possessor of a moveable fist, it is to be hoped the natives of Hunan will not follow this bad example.

#### THE LATE MR. NORONHA.

Much regret will be felt not only by the Portuguese communities of Hongkong, Macao, and the China Ports, but by Europeans of all nationalities and Chinese in Hongkong at the death of Mr. Delfino Noronha, printer and publisher. Especially will old residents feel sorrow at the final departure of an old friend, one who during a business career of half a century in Hongkong earned the highest respect from generations of residents. No man ever was more straightforward in business and social life, and no one ever was of a more generous disposition. Mr. Noronha's charities, both public and private, were many and were never done in view of any reward. The writer of this note has known Mr. Noronha for thirty years and has good reasons for believing that what he gave to the poor and the assistance he rendered to his compatriots and other in difficulties far exceeded what was known to the general public.

Mr. Noronha commenced business as a working printer at Oswald's Terrace, Wellington Street, which was then the business centre of the town, some time in the forties. Some years later the printing of the *Government Gazette*, which had previously been issued in connection with a bi-weekly paper called *The Friend of China*, was given to him, and with the help of his sons he built up the existing well-known business of Noronha & Co. At the death of Mr. Carvalho, printer and Consul for Portugal at Shanghai, Mr. Noronha took over his business and one of his sons took charge but the firm subsequently retired from Shanghai. Mr. Noronha removed sometime in the seventies to two large houses at the corner of Pottinger Street, opposite the Central Police Station, burned down at the fire of Christmas, 1878, and such was his generosity that he devoted one of them almost entirely to the entertainment of his friends when they paid visits to the Colony.

The funeral took place on the afternoon of the 7th inst. and was very numerously attended, amongst them we noticed Mr. Romano, the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, Mr. J. J. Francis all the Roman Catholic clergy and several leading members of the Portuguese community.

#### NEWS FROM THE PHILIPPINES.

SOUTHERN PARTS ARE OPENED.  
HEMP AND TOBACCO CROPS FIND AN OUTLET.

THE FRIARS—THE PLAGUE.  
Manila, 29th January.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

The ports of the southern islands are being rapidly opened and the river and bay at Manila are crowded with numerous steamers and sailing vessels. Commercial circles are more active than they have been for months, as all the houses are trying their best to get shares in the high prices that exist at every newly-opened port. As soon as the unusual demands are supplied, the prices naturally decrease and the best "pickings" become exhausted. Thus every sort of ship is being grabbed up, and ancient and obsolete craft once again take their places with the modern carriers. Many of the natives and especially the Chinese provincials make their way along the coasts in sailing vessels to Manila, where they take on their cargoes of odds and ends, and hurry back to the unimportant coast towns where large vessels do not call.

The whole country has felt the squeeze that the long months of blockade has caused and, in many places, the prices have reached a ridiculous range. In spite of the tremendous losses caused by the insurrection there seems to be a large amount of money in circulation, and goods of every description find ready buyers.

During the coming week it is expected that several ports on the northern coast of Mindanao will be opened to trade; order will be maintained by the 40th Volunteer Regiment which is now getting ready to embark. It is strange that this island, that Spaniards and foreigners repeatedly said would cause a great amount of trouble, has turned out to be one of the most pacific in the entire archipelago, and all indications point to an uninterrupted continuance of these relations.

General Kobbé's expedition has been very successful, and the hemp districts of Albay, Sorsogon and also the islands of Samar and Leyte have been opened after months of isolation.

Troops of the 47th and 43rd regiments are garrisoning this part of country, and though there are quite a number of armed insurgents in the vicinity, their operations will be confined to petty attacks of small bands whose extinction will simply be a matter of time.

#### THE RELIGIOUS CONTROVERSY.

Apparently the particulars of the demonstration at the Chappelle reception have been spread broadcast throughout the island, for petitions are arriving every day from outlying towns, addressed to Otis and Chappelle, asking for the expulsion of the friars, and begging to be spared the tyranny of the old regime. Attempts have been made by some of the newspapers to shade over the disgraceful scenes and attribute them to the misbehaviour of a lot of hoodlums and low class natives; but these distorted efforts have done more to augment the trouble than to relieve it.

The plague is being well handled and cases are not increasing at a rate to cause alarm, in fact to residents of Hongkong the existence of a similar visit would not cause more than passing comment. The sanitary department is particularly active in the cleaning of the walled city, and old broken or choked up drains and unflushed cesspools are receiving a cleaning that is far beyond the comprehension of the Spanish residents. Native inspectors have unearthed a most astonishing number of leprosy cases hidden away in all parts of the town. In hiding the sick the Filipinos are almost as cunning as the Chinese, and it requires natives to discover the numerous places of concealment. The last three weeks fortunately have been cool with strong sea breezes, and under these conditions the health of the city has been fairly easily controlled.

#### RENEWED REBELLION IN SWATOW.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 7th February, 1900.

News has reached Canton to the effect that in the district of Po-ning, Swatow, the people of several hundreds of villages have again rose in rebellion. They have gathered together a large number of bad characters, local banditti, and men of the secret societies, and incited them to take up arms against the Government. The native authorities there are afraid to cope with them because of their large numbers, and have despatched a request to the Viceroy of Canton to send troops to repress the rebellion. As General Wong-Kum-Fuk is a native of Swatow, and well acquainted with all the districts and the habits and customs of the people there, H.E. the Viceroy Li Hung Chang has ordered him to take a large number of troops and proceed in the gunboat *Chan To* to the districts to quell the disturbance. Several civil officials will go with him to assist in the trial of offenders with full power to behead any one of them on the spot if necessary.

The corpse of Mr. Stepfner, late chief mate of the barque *Aurora*, whose mysterious disappearance was recorded at Bangkok on the 18th ult., was discovered floating in the river at Bangkok a week later.



## CANTON NOTES.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

CANTON, 4th February.

## CHINA NEW YEAR.

China New Year is upon us and everything is at a standstill from a business point of view. The only person thought of by the natives is the New Viceroy, upon whom they expend as much energy, salaaming and kowtowing as would build a city or conquer a town.

Inside the city, however, things are lively enough. Nothing is more interesting than a walk through the streets at this season of the year. What strikes one more forcibly than anything else is how all the world is a kin in roguery. One notes the same old dodges. Here a yokel with open mouth swallowing with gusto the hopes and dreams held out to him by a wily seer; there a gambler staking his last cent for heaven or hell. Further on, eaters and drinkers, sight-seers and merry-makers, palmists, phrenologists, fortune-tellers, and the rest, fatten upon the weaknesses of humanity. The cigar and cigarette stall and the foreign pictorial shows are now-a-days fixed exhibitions. Here and there you come across an open-mouthed crowd with phonograph tape to ear absorbing with evident delight the slippery strains of a celestial ditty.

## THE VISIT OF THE "ILLIS."

The German gunboat *Illis* was with us recently. She had on board a band—what German ship worthy the name has not? A dance in the club was followed by a dance on board, and the Emperor's birthday was celebrated by a dinner.

## THE NEW VICEROY.

H.E. Li Hung-chang arrived recently and was well received. He is a strong man, and great things are expected of him as regards ridding the local waters of pirates. The present state of things is, of course quite abnormal—the outcome, to a great extent, of increased taxation and the unsettled condition of things generally. No doubt all will be peaceful before long, as I hear that strong measures are already being initiated.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 5th February.

## A SERIOUS FIRE.

On the 26th Jan. last, at night, between 11 and 12 o'clock, the splendid mansion of one of the richest men here, Mr. Chow Tung-shang, of Canton, in the Tung Wang street, caught fire and was completely burned, leaving only the front portal, the garden, and the theatre standing. Two of the servant girls who had no time to escape were burned to death. The property lost amounted to about two hundred thousand dollars. The fire originated from "Chin chin joss."

## LI'S BIRTHDAY.

Sunday last, the 5th inst., being the anniversary of the birthday of H.E. Li Hung-chang, the Viceroy of Canton, all the officials, civil and military, called on him and presented to him their congratulations.

## OFFICIALS TO BE REINSTATED.

It is rumoured in Canton that those mandarins who have lost their offices and been supplanted by bribery during the time of the late Viceroy Tan are to be reinstated, and the new incumbents who obtained their posts by bribes are to be dismissed.

## YAMENS TO BE OPENED.

All the official yamens are to be reopened for the transaction of business on the 8th inst.

## REVENUE FROM FANTAN.

Fantan is one of the most prevalent gambling games in Canton, being one of the sources from which most of the mandarins derive their income of squeeze to keep up their positions. It was once licensed by the late Viceroy Li Hung-chang; but in the time of the late Viceroy Tan Chung-lin, together with the late provincial Governor Mah, upon their memorialising the Throne, it was put a stop to; still it has been openly carried on by bribery. It is now hinted, says the native paper *Pok Man Po* of the 5th inst., that H.E. the Viceroy Li Hung-chang intends to license it for 750,000 taels, two-thirds of which are to pay for naval expenses and one-third to pay the military expenses.

## CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting in connection with the China Provident Loan and Mortgage Company, Limited, was held at the office of the General Managers (Messrs. Shewan, Tomes, and Co.) on the 8th inst. at noon. Mr. E. Shewan presided, and there were also present: Messrs. J. H. Lewis, J. S. Van Buren, Chow Hing Ki, Chan Tung Chang (directors), E. S. Kelly, and F. M. Gutierrez.

The notice convening the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN said—I propose that the following resolutions passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the company held on the 23rd January be confirmed, namely, first—"That the capital of the company be increased to \$2,000,000 by the creation and issue of 50,000 new shares of \$20 each." Will anybody second that?

Mr. KELLY seconded, and the resolution was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—I now propose that the second resolution be confirmed, namely, "That the commission of the General Managers be reduced to 5 per cent. and that the figure '8' in the sixth paragraph of Article XI. of the Articles of Association of the Company be struck out and the figure '5' substituted therefor." Will anybody second that?

Mr. VAN BUREN seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—The resolutions having now been passed, I may inform you that the transfer books will be closed on the 15th inst., and the first call of \$5 per share will be payable on the 15th March. All shareholders on the register on the 15th February will be entitled to apply for the new issue in the proportion of one new share for every share standing in their name on that date.

## THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LIMITED.

The nineteenth ordinary annual meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong Ice Company, Limited, was held on the 7th inst. at the offices of the General Managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.), Pedder street. The chair was occupied by Mr. C. W. Dickson, and there were also present: Messrs. W. Parlance, (manager), H. W. Ball (secretary), Brook Smith, Cruickshank, A. Fleet, Ho Fuk, To Cheung Shui, and Fak Han Yin.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—With your permission I propose to take the report now before you as read. The quantity of ice sold during the year was larger than usual, and although some of the outlets may not be open to us in the future, yet it is satisfactory to note an increase in local consumption, a continuance of which may be relied on. Our revenue from cold storage though necessarily small shows a satisfactory increase, and I may add that if further accommodation should at any time be required the company is able and will be prepared to provide it. The factory buildings and plant are in good order. As you will observe from the accounts, a sum of \$200 was subscribed to the Soldiers and Sailors Families Fund, and this I have no doubt will have your approval. Presuming that you adopt the General Managers' recommendations as stated in the report, your property will then stand at \$100,000, a very moderate figure below which there does not seem any necessity to reduce it. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be glad to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to put relating to the report and accounts.

No questions being asked, the report and accounts were adopted on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. FLEET.

On the motion of Mr. HO FUK, seconded by Mr. LO CHEUNG SHUI, Mr. Thomas Arnold was re-elected auditor.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow.

## THE KOWLOON LAND AND BUILDING COMPANY, LIMITED.

On the 6th inst. at noon the eleventh ordinary meeting of shareholders in the Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited, was held at the company's offices, Victoria Buildings. Mr. F. Henderson presided, and there were also present: Messrs. E. Jones Hughes, J. H. Cox, J. Goodman (directors), A. Shelton Hooper (secretary), E. Georg, T. H. Reid, and M. S. Northcote.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, there is very little to say with regard to the report which is now before you and which, with your permission, we will take as read. You will notice that the income has increased by \$1,300, and that the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of \$1.25, as against \$1 last year, be paid. The capital now stands at \$180,000 and is divided into 6,000 shares, \$30 paid up. The houses have been fully occupied during the year. Repairs have been executed to the extent of \$750. I do not know that I have anything else to remark about the report, but if anyone desires to ask any question I shall be happy to answer them.

No questions being asked, the report was adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. GEORG.

Mr. REID, in proposing the re-election of Messrs. J. W. Cox and E. Jones Hughes as directors, said—I take this opportunity of congratulating the directors upon the satisfactory report they have been able to submit to the shareholders. The expenses of management are very low, and the prospect of an increased rental I think give the shareholders hope that the dividend will be even higher in the coming year. At the same time I would like to suggest to the directors that they should consider the advisability of increasing their business in Kowloon. The demand for houses there is increasing, and if the directors can see their way at all to extend their business I think they ought to take advantage of this demand for houses.

Mr. GEORG seconded, and the motion was carried.

Messrs. Thos. Arnold and W. H. Gaskell were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. REID, seconded by Mr. NORTHCOTE.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow. I am very much obliged to Mr. Reid for his suggestion. The proposals of shareholders will always be considered. The reason we have not developed more up to the present is that so far as we can make out it would not be possible to build further on the sites without deteriorating the present buildings. When the demand for houses becomes so great and it becomes possible, then we shall undertake it.

## OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received the following telegram from the Mines:—

"During January mill ran 12 days, crushed 298 tons of stone, yielding 152 ozs smelted gold, have struck the lode at the 300 ft. level south, average width of lode is 9 feet, the whole width of the lode is worth 6 dwts. per ton, 4 feet on the foot wall side assays 10 dwts. per ton, important developments have taken place in the higher levels, prospects of the mine generally very good."

In reference to the small number of days the mill was working the general managers state that they have lately received advices by letter from the mines intimating that owing to the usual annual overhaul and to the alteration and repairs necessitated by the introduction of cages into the mine in place of the old system of buckets, there would be considerable delay in starting the battery running again.

H.M.S. *Daphne* left Shanghai on the 29th ult., for Weihaiwei.



## "CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT."

The following is the conclusion of the paper on "Criminal Law and its Historical Development," read before the Odd-Volumes Society at the City Hall on Tuesday, 30th ult., by the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Acting Chief Justice):—

### PROCEDURE IN THE CASE OF INDICTABLE OFFENCES.—(A.) PROCEDURE BEFORE THE MAGISTRATE.

It may be appropriate to indicate, at this point, the mode of procedure followed in England in the case of an indictable offence, and dealt with summarily by the Magistrate. As a rule, such a case commences, if the accused is not already in custody, by the issue of a summons or warrant to procure his attendance before the stipendiary Magistrate or the two Justices of the Peace, who in many country districts of England are his equivalent. The summons or warrant of arrest as the case may be contains a concise statement of the charge. Before a warrant of arrest can issue it is indispensable that the information or statement of the accuser or informer should be verified by oath in due form.

The accused person, either having appeared to a summons or being brought up in custody, is placed in the dock and proceedings begin at once. Often a remand is at this stage asked for on the part of the prosecution, so as to procure the attendance of all the necessary witnesses, some of whom may not yet be in attendance. Some slight evidence will justify such remand, and the Magistrate may orally remand for three clear days or by written warrant for a space not exceeding eight clear days.

Subpoenas may be issued if necessary to procure the attendance of witnesses. "Then, upon the day appointed for continuing the hearing the prosecutor and his witnesses as well as the accused being present, and either side, should they think fit, being represented by counsel, the case is opened by a brief statement upon the part of the prosecutor, who then proceeds to bring forward his witnesses. The latter will be examined upon oath, their depositions being taken down by the clerk, in the first person, and as nearly as possible in the exact language used. Any material remark volunteered by the prisoner during any part of the proceedings should be similarly recorded. At the close of each witness' examination, the accused, or his counsel is at liberty to cross-examine him, and the answers will be taken down in the same manner as those obtained upon the examination-in-chief."

All these depositions will then be read over to, and signed by, the respective witnesses who have made them and will be signed by the presiding Magistrate. And any such deposition may be used against the accused, at his trial, in case of the previous death of the witness making it or of his being so ill at the time as to be unable to attend.

If, after hearing all the evidence for the prosecution, the Magistrate is of opinion that it is not sufficient to put the accused on trial, the latter is entitled to be forthwith discharged. It should be observed that the ordinary rules of evidence apply equally to such cases as the present as to those in which the Magistrate is dealing with a matter as to which his jurisdiction is final.

If the Magistrate is satisfied, however, that the evidence adduced by the prosecutor is sufficient to put the accused on his defence, he will read or cause to be read to him the depositions already taken, and, after informing him of the precise legal charge which he has to answer, will address him in the following terms:— "Having heard the evidence do you wish to say anything in answer to the charge? You are not obliged to say anything unless you desire to do so; but whatever you say will be taken down in writing and may be given in evidence against you on your trial, and you are also clearly to understand that you have nothing to hope from any promise of favour and nothing to fear from any threat which may have been holden out to you to induce you to make any admission or confession of your guilt; but whatever you now say may be given in evidence against you upon your trial, notwithstanding such promise or

threat." Any statement which the accused may make in answer must be taken down, read over to him, signed by the Magistrate and placed with the depositions; and such statement may be given in evidence against him at his trial.

The Magistrate will then proceed to demand of the accused whether he wishes to call any witnesses. If so, their statements upon oath will be taken both by way of examination and cross-examination, provided they know anything of the facts of the case, or anything tending to show the innocence of the accused. Such depositions will be reduced into writing, read over to the person making the same, and otherwise treated in precisely the same manner as the depositions for the prosecution. Should this last evidence be such as to supply, in the opinion of the Magistrate, a sufficient and conclusive answer to the charge, the accused will be at once released. Should the Magistrate, on the other hand, consider it his duty to send the matter for trial he will either commit the accused to prison for safe custody during the interim or admit him to bail. He will bind over, by recognisance, the prosecutor and his several witnesses, as well as all witnesses called for the defence (not being mere witnesses to character) who may, in his opinion, have given evidence in any way material to the case, or tending to prove the innocence of the accused, to appear at the Court at which the accused is to be tried and prosecute or give evidence respectively. Minors and married women are constantly thus bound over, and the Magistrate may, by warrant, commit to prison any witness refusing to be bound, until the trial."

### (b.) PROCEDURE BETWEEN COMMITTAL AND TRIAL.—FUNCTIONS OF THE GRAND JURY IN ENGLAND AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL IN HONGKONG.

The Magistrate, having committed for trial, the accused, in England, either remains in custody till the hearing of the case by the Quarter Sessions or the Judge of Assize as the case may be, or else procures bail, which will generally be allowed, except in cases of very serious crime where the punishment is likely to be so heavy that the accused would, in all probability, prefer to forfeit the recognisance of himself and his sureties, and run away rather than appear and take his trial.

In this Colony there are no Quarter Sessions, but, what is more advantageous to the accused, a monthly sitting of the Supreme Court which ensures the speedy trial of all accused persons and prevents the delays which are often complained of in England.

Another difference at this stage of the proceedings appears between the practice in Hongkong and the course adopted in England. Here we have a public prosecutor. The Attorney General has the depositions submitted to him by the Crown Solicitor and considers the case carefully.

He has power by Ordinance to remit the case back to the Magistrate, if he is of opinion that the accused person should not have been committed for trial, but should have been dealt with summarily. In the latter case he can direct the Magistrates so to deal with the matter.

The Attorney General can also refer back the documents to the Magistrate with directions to re-open the inquiry for the purpose of taking further evidence. These powers are not often used but they are useful powers to possess.

As a general rule, the Attorney General prepares the formal charge or information or (as it is now called under the new Procedure Ordinance, No. 13 of 1899) the *Indictment* against the accused.

After the indictment is prepared and signed by the Attorney General it is, in this Colony, brought to the Registrar of the Court and is filed by him in the Supreme Court. A notice is then endorsed on it addressed to the accused specifying the date of the session at which the trial will take place, and a copy of the indictment and of this notice is served on the accused by the Bailiff of the Court. Thus the accused is put in possession of the exact nature of the charges upon which he will have to be tried and can prepare for his defence accordingly. Moreover he has the advantage of knowing the evidence against him, which was given at the Magistracy. In Eng-

land the Grand Jury are interposed between the committal for trial and the actual trial in Court. In point of fact an indictment in England is a written accusation of a crime preferred to and presented upon oath by a Grand Jury. It commences "The Jurors for our Lady the Queen upon their oath present that J. S. on the 1st day of June, etc. did (commit such and such crime). Thus before the cases at Assizes or Quarter Sessions in England are taken, a Grand Jury of not less than twelve nor more than twenty-three persons are summoned for the purpose of receiving such Bill of Indictment as may be referred before them. The Grand Jurors, as a rule, consist of gentlemen of standing within the district, for which the Court is sitting.

At the Assizes, the Grand Jury consists in practice of county Magistrates, a list of whom is called over at the opening of the Courts in order that they may appear. The Judge delivers what is called a "charge" or address to the Grand Jury, shortly pointing out the nature of their duties and directing their attention to any peculiarities in the cases which they will have to consider. The Grand Jury discuss each indictment, *seriatim*, and hear witnesses in private (usually only those for the prosecution) and, if they are satisfied that there is a *prima facie* case against the accused person, they return a "true bill" (as it is called, and the case then goes for trial before a Judge and jury. If they think that there is no case made out, the foreman endorses upon the indictment the words "no true bill." In every case the foreman signs the endorsement. True bills are brought by the Grand Jury into the Court and handed by the foreman to the clerk of the Court. If "no true bill" is found, the case is at an end, unless there has been a verdict against the accused by the jury in a Coroner's inquisition. Historically, the interposition of the Grand Jury was the natural course of things, but it seems to me it is not really now necessary in those cases where an experienced Magistrate has already investigated the matter and committed the accused for trial. In this colony, the work of the Grand Jury is in substance performed by the Attorney General and the time of the twelve to twenty-three gentlemen is saved thereby.

### (c.) PROCEDURE AT THE TRIAL.

I need only touch lightly on the trial to which all these formalities are the preliminary, for a criminal trial now differs in very few points from any ordinary civil cause, and its course is well known. At the present day any accused person may retain counsel for his defence. It seems strange to us now that until 1836 a prisoner charged with felony was not allowed to have the benefit of professional advocacy. Yet such was the case, and I may add, in passing, that it was not till 1747 that "a full defence by counsel" was allowed to those accused for treason. The accused man is first of all "arraigned," that is, called to the bar to plead to the charge made against him. There are now only four possible pleas, the person charged with felony can plead "Guilty," "Not Guilty," "Autrefois Acquit," "Autrefois Convict." Of course, the last two pleas simply allege a previous trial and acquittal or conviction of the accused as to the offence charged in the indictment. But the usual plea is "Not Guilty," and that plea puts the prosecutor upon the proof of everything necessary at law to prove the prisoner's guilt. If the accused is obstinate and declines to plead at all, a plea of "not guilty" is entered for him. One may here remark that less than one hundred and fifty years ago a prisoner who would not plead was treated very differently. Sir J. F. Stephen points out that, till 1772, such a person was taken and "stretched naked upon his back and had iron laid upon him as much as he could bear and more, and had so to continue, fed upon bad bread and stagnant water, on alternate days, till he either pleaded or died." Indeed, in 1726, one Burnwater, accused, at Kingston Assizes, of murder, refused to plead, and was pressed for an hour and three quarters with nearly four hundred-weight of iron, after which he pleaded "not guilty," and was convicted and hanged. I remember reading of several other cases. The object of refusing to plead was, that in that case there could be no conviction, therefore no forfeiture occurred and the property of the accused person was thus preserved for his



heir. It is evident public feeling has much changed since those days.

We will assume the accused to have pleaded "not guilty." The next step is that of empanelling the jury by whom he is to be tried. In England the jury consists of twelve men and the verdict must be unanimous. In Hongkong the jury consists of seven men and (except in cases, such as murder visited by the law with capital punishment) a majority consisting of not less than five jurors can give a valid verdict.

In England the accused may challenge peremptorily, that is, may, without giving any reason, object to thirty-five jurymen in cases of treason, and twenty in cases of felony, but in cases of misdemeanour he has no right of peremptory challenge and must show good cause for any challenge he makes. Any challenge must be made as the jurymen are about to be sworn and before he is sworn. In Hongkong, causeless challenges are not allowed. It is provided by the Jury Consolidation Ordinance, No. 18 of 1878, that no person who shall be put upon his trial either for treason, felony or misdemeanour shall be allowed to challenge any of the jurors except for cause.

When the jury has been sworn, proclamation is made calling on the prosecutor and witnesses to prosecute and give their evidence.

In cases of treason and felony, the officer of the Court then gives the prisoner in charge to the jury, stating the effect of the indictment and the prisoner's plea of not guilty and charging them to enquire whether he is guilty or not. The Counsel for the prosecution then opens the case to the jury and calls and examines his witnesses who are respectively cross-examined and re-examined according to the rules of evidence. It used to be a cardinal rule that the prisoner could not be called as a witness to give evidence on oath, but by a recent Act of Parliament 61 and 62, Victoria, chap. 36, it is enacted that in England "Every person charged with an offence and the wife or husband, as the case may be, of the person so charged, shall be a competent witness for the defence at every stage of the proceedings whether the person so charged is solely or jointly with any other person."

As a general rule, however, the accused cannot even now be called as a witness except upon his own application, and certain limits are imposed on his cross-examination. At the close of the prosecution, the case for the defence is opened by the prisoner's Counsel (if he has any) and the witnesses for the defence are called and cross-examined and re-examined and then the prisoner's Counsel sums up his evidence.

Then follows the reply of the Counsel for the prosecution and the summing up of the whole matter by the Judge who directs the jury as to the law of the case and calls their attention to the evidence adduced. The jury then give their verdict and prisoner is discharged if the verdict is "not guilty" and sentenced if he is found guilty.

#### REMARKS ON THE PRESENT PROCEDURE.

All this seems very natural to us now, because we are accustomed to it, but the prisoner was not always treated with the consideration he meets with now. I am far from saying that the present system might not be improved, and that many useless technicalities might not be abolished with advantage to the community; but there can be little doubt that, given a careful judge and fair-minded jury, very few innocent people can be convicted, though, possibly, a fair percentage of guilty men are acquitted through technicalities. It must be remembered that although the jury may think the probability is that the accused is guilty, nevertheless if they entertain any reasonable doubt they must find a verdict of not guilty. We have no special verdict of "not proven" in English Criminal Law.

One defect in the criminal procedure in England is the want of a sufficient staff of public prosecutors. It is true that, in 1884, the Solicitor of Her Majesty's Treasury was constituted Director of Criminal Prosecutions. But he intervenes only occasionally, to prevent a miscarriage of justice; and in nearly every case the private individual who is injured is left to prosecute at his own expense, subject to the Court allowing his reimbursement to a certain extent. Such prosecution, though in the name of the Sovereign, is in reality a private prosecution.

In Hongkong, however, the Attorney General acts as Public Prosecutor and private prosecutions, the indictment has to be signed by the Attorney General.

#### NECESSITY FOR A CODE OF CRIMINAL LAW.

It seems very strange, and it indicates the necessity for oiling the wheels of the Legislative Machinery in England, that we have no complete Code of English Criminal Law. If Parliament has had the inclination, it has not found time to pass such a measure.

It is to be lamented that King James did not accept Lord Bacon's offer to digest the laws of England as they existed at the beginning of the seventeenth century. Sir Robert Peel, speaking in the House of Commons in 1826, said that the lapse of more than two hundred years had increased the necessity of the measure which Lord Bacon then proposed. It is estimated by a competent authority that in the middle of the thirteenth century, some twenty sections would have sufficed for a criminal code, while in Lord Coke's day, possibly eighty sections, carefully drawn, would have been sufficient. It is true that some portions, perhaps nearly half of the Criminal Law, was consolidated nearly forty years ago. The Consolidation Acts of 1861 dealing with accessories, with offences against the person, with larceny, with malicious injury to property, with forgery, and with coinage offences, although somewhat cumbersome in their structure and very deficient in definitions, are very useful Acts. But a Code of substantive Criminal Law and also a Code of Procedure are sadly needed, and in the absence of such codes one can but admit the justice of the description of our law as "a curious combination of Common Law and fragments of innumerable statutes, welded, so far as it is welded into a whole, only by the industry of text writers who have assimilated and collected the immense materials afforded by ancient treatises, case law, and the statute law."

The result is that the practising lawyer has constantly to consult huge treatises such as Russell on Crimes.

#### IGNORANTIA LEGIS NEMINEM EXCUSAT.

Now although modern Criminal Law is a complicated and difficult subject, it is no good for an offender to say he did not know he was breaking the law.

The answer will be "everyone is presumed to know the law," an assumption perhaps more remarkable for boldness than for accuracy. At the same time, it is difficult to see how justice could be administered on any other assumption though, most certainly, the majority of people know remarkably little about the Criminal Law. Yet comparatively few seem to suffer much inconvenience from that want of knowledge. It is quite possible for any ordinary, honest, well conducted man to go through life without troubling himself in the least, about the difficulties and complexities of Criminal Law. It is true that, as civilization increases and men congregate in large towns, many regulations, fiscal or municipal, have to be enacted, and as contraventions of these are enforced by the Magistrate in the interests of the community, an act not, in itself, morally wrong may be made punishable. But, in the main, the Criminal Law is an elaborate development of the second half of those ten commandments, which we are told were divinely given more than three thousand years ago, amidst thunderings and lightnings, at Mount Sinai. Therefore a man who obeys those commandments will not be likely to fall foul of the Criminal Law of England.

#### CRIMINAL LAW AND THE COMMANDMENTS.

Human nature now is singularly likely human nature then. The commandments Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour, Thou shalt not covet, &c. &c. are as essential to the welfare of the individual and of the State now at the end of the 19th century in England and in Hongkong and elsewhere, as in the days of Moses and in the wilderness around the holy mountain. Indeed, Sir James F. Stephen points out that the statement of the positive duties of man to man to be found in the Church Catechism which merely develops those commandments, corresponds step by step with the prohibitions of a Criminal Code. "Those," says he, "who honour and obey the Queen will

not commit high treason or other political offences. Those who honour and obey, in their due order and degree, those who are put in authority under the Queen, will not attempt to pervert the course of justice nor will they disobey lawful commands or violate the provisions of Acts of Parliament or be guilty of corrupt practices with regard to public officers, or in the discharge of powers confided to them by law. Those who hurt nobody by word will not commit libel, or threaten injury to person, property or reputation, nor will they lie in Courts of Justice or elsewhere but will keep their tongues from evil speaking, lying and slandering. Those who hurt nobody by deed will not commit murder, administer poison, or wound or assault others, or burn their houses or maliciously injure their property. Those who keep their hands from picking and stealing will commit neither theft, nor fraudulent breaches of trust, nor forgery, nor will they pass bad money." I need not proceed any further with this illustration, but there is much truth in that learned writer's statement that "The criminal law may be regarded as a detailed exposition of the different ways in which men may so violate their duty to their neighbours as to incur the indignation of society, to an extent measured not inaccurately by the various punishments awarded to their misdeeds."

#### CRIMINAL LAW IN THE OLDER DAYS.

Greene tells us in his *History of the English People*, that the ten commandments and a portion of the law of Moses were prefixed to the code of King Alfred, and thus became part of the law of the land in Saxon times. Now King Alfred died A.D. 901, so his laws were in force a thousand years ago; and while the Church Ecclesiastics gradually assumed jurisdiction in matters calling for spiritual censure, the Civil Courts came to deal in time almost exclusively with offenders against the second half of the commandments. One might say, in popular languages, the clergy enforced many of the duties to God while the Civil Courts dealt with wrongful acts to a man's neighbours or fellow-men. This may be accounted for, even in those wild days, by the influence of the Church. An eminent writer has pointed out that "the clergy were never more powerful in any time or country than they were in England before the Norman Conquest. Civil and Ecclesiastical legislature went hand in hand, nearly every set of secular laws enacted by any of the early Kings were coupled with an ecclesiastical code or contained ecclesiastical provisions." In those days the highest as well as the lowest in the land regarded ecclesiastical censure and discipline with awe. Moreover, the Bishop and the Earl sat side by side in the Court of each County, till William the Conqueror relegated the Bishops to their special province of dealing with things ecclesiastical and the discipline of souls. Thus originated the Bishops' Courts which still exist and which many years ago played an important part in history.

The Clergy encouraged the system of Compurgation and of Ordeals, which were the modes of deciding contested cases where an offender was charged with crime in Saxon times.

#### CRIMINAL LAW IN SAXON TIMES.—INFANGTHIEF, COMPURGATION, AND ORDEALS.

In Saxon times the thief or murderer, if of bad character, got little mercy. Franchises of *Infangthief* were usually conceded to the lords of townships, which conferred the right summarily executing thieves found on their lands. Strangers were regarded with suspicion, for Ina's laws provide that "if a far coming man or a stranger journey through a wood out of the highway, and neither shout nor blow his horn, he is to be held for a thief either to be slain or redeemed."

Assuming, however, that the accused escaped summary hanging, the process of investigation into a charge of theft seems to have been somewhat as follows:—First, in order to see that the charge was made *bona fide*, the accuser had to swear he accused not "for hatred, envy, or unlawful lust of gain."

The accused man, if he denied the charge, then had to swear to his innocence. Then arose the question of personal character. The system of sureties and Frankpledge simplified this. Ethelstone's law, for instance, enacted that the lord or his steward should answer for



all his men. If the man's character was good he might be tried by "*Compurgation*." But, if he could not procure the requisite persons to swear to their belief in his innocence, or if his general character was bad, or he was a stranger, he had then to submit to the *Ordeal*.

If the ordeal went against him, he had, for a first offence, usually to make *bot* (i.e., give compensation) to the accuser two fold and to pay to the lord his *wer* (a price which varied according to his station in life), and he had also to find sureties thereafter to abstain from evil. For a second offence the punishment was death or mutilation. In the olden days crimes of violence were not uncommon, and an eminent authority points out that, of the 77 Laws of King Alfred, no less than 34 deal with injuries resulting from unlawful violence. The "*bot*," or compensation, is prescribed with remarkable detail. Here is a specimen. "If the great toe is struck off let twenty shillings be paid as *bot*. If it be the second toe, fifteen shillings." The others were valued, respectively, at nine shillings, six shillings, and five shillings. It almost reminds one of the children's nursery rhymes about, "This little pig went to market, &c., &c." I may add that some serious crimes were *botless*, not to be purged by compensation at all.

It seems wonderful that the extraordinary system of trial by Ordeal could have lasted even so long as it did. It is not surprising that it was at last condemned by the Lateran Council in A.D. 1215. It was an appeal to the Almighty to work a miracle in attestation of the innocence of the accused person.

The tests were such that, in the absence of trickery which in some cases could not easily have been resorted to, the accused could not escape suffering and injury as preliminary to the final penalty inflicted because, the miracle not having been worked, he was held guilty of the charge. The handling of red hot iron, walking bare-foot over heated ploughshares, plunging the hand and arm into boiling water, must have afforded little chance of escape. In Ethelbert's laws it is said of the accused when found guilty, "Let him be smitten so that his neck break." While the punishments in King Canute's time were regulated by the enactment which said "Let his hands be cut off or his feet or both, according as the deed may be, and if he have wrought yet greater wrong then let his eyes be put out and his nose and ears and his upper lip be cut off, or let him be scalped, whichever of these those shall counsel whose duty it is to counsel thereupon, so that punishment be inflicted and also the soul be preserved." There is a quaint sound about the suggestion of salvation by scalping.

One would have thought the *water ordeal* was scarcely a fair test. Sinking was a sign of innocence, floating the sign of guilt. Assuming the accused to sink it was not always deemed necessary to pull him out. Indeed one of the Archbishops required a rope to be tied to the accused, as otherwise he would be drowned unless he came to the surface when he would be deemed guilty and killed. Possibly the rope was only insisted on where it was desired to save the life of the accused.

Another ordeal was that of the "*accursed morsel*," a piece of hard dry bread specially consecrated by the priest. The accused first called on the Deity to make the bread stick in his throat if he were guilty and then proceeded to slowly eat the morsel. It is said the great Earl Godwin was choked in that way.

#### CRIMINAL LAW SINCE THE NORMAN CONQUEST—WAGER OF BATTLE AND TRIAL BY JURY.

William the Conqueror did not abolish the old Saxon modes of trial by ordeal and compurgation, though, by the middle of the 13th century, they had ceased to be used. He, however, introduced from Normandy the *Wager of Battle*, or trial by duel, of which Sir Walter Scott gives us some spirited pictures in his novels. This was known as the *Appeal of Felony*. In cases of murder and manslaughter any blood relation of the slain man could appeal against the slayer. The latter threw down his glove and claimed the combat, and unless the accuser took up the challenge the accused went free. If as usually happened, the challenge was accepted, a speedy day was appointed for

the trial of arms, and on that day in lists presided over by the Sheriff or the itinerant Justices, the combat took place with all the solemnity. The charge was read over and the accused (appellant) swore on the Gospels to his belief in its truth. Then the accused, in like manner, avouched his innocence. Then, armed in mode suited to their rank, the duellists began the encounter. The hour fixed for the commencement of the proceedings was generally an early one.

If the accused could disable his adversary, or make him cry "*craven*," or prolong the fight until the evening, he was declared guiltless of the charge, and the accuser was fined and declared infamous. If, however, the accused got worsted, his lot, if yet alive, was hanging. Wager of battle could not be claimed if the accuser was a woman, or a priest, or a child, or an old man over sixty years of age. In those cases, at first, compurgation or the ordeal were resorted to, but after the reign of John, Trial by Jury, then in its infancy, superseded the former methods. *Appeal of Felony* continued to exist side by side with Trial by Jury until the Tudor period. It then fell more and more into disuse until, by the time of the Stuarts, it was practically lost sight of. It was not, however, specifically abolished, and thus it happened that in 1817 the "*Wager of Battle*" was claimed by a man named Thornton, accused of murder, and as the accuser declined the challenge, Thornton had to be acquitted. Two years later the "*Appeal of Felony*" was abolished by the Act 59 Geo. III c. 6. Among recorded instances of Wager by Battle may be mentioned the battle by single combat which was fought before King William II. and the Peers in A.D. 1096, between Geoffrey Baynard and the Earl of Eu. Baynard having accused the Earl of high treason, conquered him in the fight and the Earl was accordingly deemed convicted and was blinded and mutilated. Readers of Shakespeare will remember how the combat proposed between Henry Bolingbroke (afterwards Henry IV.) and Thomas Duke of Norfolk in 1398 was forbidden by Richard II. when the combatants were in the lists and had gone through all the preliminaries so well described by our great dramatist.

#### ORIGIN OF TRIAL BY JURY.

Gradually, however, the payment of "*we*" or money compensation for crime became abolished. Modern fines usually go to the Public Treasury and stand on a different basis. The distinction between a crime and a tort or private wrong, become well established. A crime began to be treated as a breach of the King's Peace and to be prosecuted by the Crown, though at the instance of a private accuser. But when the Crown became a party to the proceedings, the wager of battle ceased to be appropriate. The sovereign could not be challenged to fight, and thus Trial by Jury came more into general use. In the time of Edward III., when a prisoner had been presented by the hundred jury, a jury of twelve, which may be called the Inquest Jury, were sworn to try the question of guilt or innocence. Such a jury brought in their verdict of their own knowledge of the facts of the case and of the character of the accused, not upon evidence adduced before them. Great authorities, such as Mr. Maitland and Sir J. F. Stephen, differ on the question whether, at first, the Inquest Jurors were the same as those who presented the prisoner for trial. But, in any case, it was probably not until the 15th century that the jurors began to find their verdicts simply on the evidence of witnesses called before them.

#### INDICTMENTS FORMERLY IN LATIN.

It was in the reign of Edward I. that Indictments were reduced to writing. The language was Latin and in that language, such is the force of custom, the written accusation against the prisoner continued to be framed for more than four centuries. It seems incredible, but it is the fact, that all Criminal Indictments were written in Latin while Common Law Pleadings were framed in a sort of barbarous Norman French, till the reign of George II. The recital of the Act of Parliament, 4 George II., c. 26, is instructive: "Whereas many and great mischiefs do frequently happen to the subjects of this Kingdom from the proceedings in Courts of

Justice being in an unknown language, those who are summoned and impleaded having no knowledge or understanding of what is alleged for or against them in the pleadings of their lawyers and attorneys who use a character not legible to any but persons practising the law." &c. Thenceforth, English in plain handwriting was to take the place of the quaint Latin and French.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

To Edward III. we owe the institution of Justices of the Peace and the origin of their jurisdiction which, in modern times, is so extensive as regards the punishment of trifling offences and the preliminary investigation of more serious crime. A vast improvement in the mode of conducting such preliminary investigations was effected by Sir John Jarvis' Acts of 1849.

No allusion is made in any Act of Parliament prior to the middle of the 16th century, to the preliminary Inquiry of Justices into crimes, with a view to the committal of the accused for trial. The old practice in such matters was regulated by the Acts passed in 1554 and 1555, in Queen Mary's reign. Sir J. F. Stephen points out that, under the system established in the 16th century, the Magistrate acted the part of a public prosecutor, while under the present system he occupies the position of a preliminary Judge. Under the old system the accused was fully questioned as to all the circumstances connected with his supposed offence, while under the Act of Victoria he cannot be questioned at all.

Under the Statutes of Mary, the examination of witnesses and the recording of their depositions was intended only for the information of the Court. The prisoner had no right to be and probably seldom was present while the evidence was being taken, and he was not even allowed to see the depositions. It would seem as if the Continental system of trying to expose and detect a person presumed to be guilty was resorted to. The practice under the modern Act is aimed, on the other hand, at obtaining a full enquiry into the guilt or innocence of the accused.

#### BENEFIT OF CLERGY.

One of the most remarkable subjects in the history of English Criminal Law is that known as *Benefit of Clergy*. Originally it was what the words imply, a special privilege enjoyed by the Clergy, namely, freedom from the jurisdiction of lay Courts, and the right of being dealt with exclusively by the Ecclesiastical Courts. In Bracton's time, when a Clerk was accused of crime, the Court had on request to deliver him over to his Bishop to be dealt with. The Bishop was to keep him safely till he made Ecclesiastical purgation, failing which he was to be degraded or put to penance. The process of purgation was as follows. The Bishop or his deputy presided and the jury consisted of 12 Clerks. The accused swore to his innocence and got persons as *compurgators* to swear they believed he spoke the truth. Only witnesses for the defence were allowed to be called and, consequently, the verdict usually acquitted the accused.

Later on, it was established that a Clerk in orders could not claim Benefit of Clergy till he had been tried and convicted by the ordinary tribunals.

Then the privilege was extended to all men who could read—an accomplishment not so common in those days. It amounted to this eventually, that when a man was found guilty of any clergyable felony and was asked what he had to say why sentence of death should not be passed upon him, he "fell on his knees and prayed his Clergy," and, for a first offence, got some much lighter punishment, such as imprisonment for a year after being branded on the hand so as to prevent a second plea of Clergy. Of course this was very illogical.

Death was the punishment of so many offences that the law was extremely severe. If the law was too severe, the logical course was to lessen the punishments, but, instead of that, "*benefit of clergy*" was allowed in a number of cases. Women, however, could not be ordained, so they were not able, in the olden days, to be kindly assumed to be Clerks like men, who could read, and thus they could not plead their clergy.



Speaking of the law under the Plantagenets, a great authority writes as follows:—"A man who could not read and a woman, whether she could read or not, must be hung for stealing two shillings. But a murderer of the worst kind who knew how to read, escaped from nearly all punishment unless, indeed, he had married a widow."

In such a strange state of the law the advice of the elder Weller to his son to "beware of the widows" would have been very appropriate.

Benefit of Clergy was not abolished till 1827 by the Act of George IV.

#### TECHNICAL OBJECTIONS.

Another drawback to excessive severity in Criminal Law is that technical objections are thereby encouraged "*in favorem vite*."

It would be too tedious to give instances of the absurd objections which used to be taken to indictments, and were not only taken but allowed to be fatal to the prosecution. Judges ought to have had the power at once to amend any slight defect not really essential to the substantial merits of the matter. But it was not till the present century that such powers were conferred in certain cases by various Acts of Parliament. It is not very long since an indictment for murder had to set out in minute details all the circumstances of the crime, so that it became advisable to insert different versions in different courts. In one court it would be alleged that the knife was held in the murderer's right hand; in another that it was held in his left hand, and so on. It was one thing to require that the accused should know what he was charged with, it was quite another to require a number of irrelevant details to be inserted in the indictment. Even in the present day some of our indictments might, with advantage, be greatly abbreviated, and no doubt this will be done when our law becomes codified.

#### CONCLUSION.

Strange as is the history of the devices resorted to in former days to mitigate excessive severity of the Criminal Law then in existence, underlying them all will be found a praiseworthy leaning to mercy, a desire that the first offender should get off more lightly than the hardened criminal, or a desire that, if a loophole could be found, the accused might thereby escape the penalty which was felt to be, in some cases, too great for the offence. But it may well be doubted whether a much more complicated and unphilosophical system of jurisprudence could be found in the annals of a great people than English Criminal Law in force even in those days "when George III. was King."

During the reign of Queen Victoria, however, not only have great improvements been effected, but great and wise and honest Judges have administered the law and out of chaos something like order and system have been evolved. I am not one of those who think the present English Criminal Law perfect; but, as a practical system, it is now just and merciful. Taken as a whole it is not unworthy of a nation which yield to none in love of justice, administered alike to rich and poor—justice administered openly in the face of all men and without fear or favour.

The Formosan Government will shortly revive the old scholastic degrees in force before the island passed to Japan. There were three of such degrees, which, according to the Japanese pronunciation, read *Kiojin*, *Kosei* and *Shusai*. The Chinese attached not inconsiderable importance to these titles, the holders being eligible for official posts, besides receiving certain social distinctions.

The thousand old soldiers from the Russian transport *Moskwa* still ornament the road in the vicinity of the Borneo Wharf, says the *Singapore Free Press*. With their great coats apparently as the only protection provided for them from the sun and the night dew, but they have ingeniously constructed little *tentes d'abri* of kadjang and bits of pieces of wood and iron. In no other Colony than a British one would the bivouacking of a thousand men, with no sanitary arrangements and very little idea of decency, be permitted on the public road.

### RACING NOTES

February 5th.

An excellent judge of form has sagely remarked, that a few of the ponies already making time will have to give way to some of the steadier division when the numbers are up, and in this I quite concur. There are at least five whose names will be mentioned later on that strike one as being capable of better things.

Rampant Rose is steadily increasing in favour for the Derby, and his Saturday's mile and a half in three thirty-nine, accomplished as it was quite comfortably, leads to the belief that his work is progressing satisfactorily.

The subscription griffen Sarton easily settled the pretensions of Cossock in a mile and a quarter run in three seven and a half. This pony is also out for Derby honours, and he answers every question put to him so well that he will have to be taken into consideration whenever he starts.

Mile and three quarter work was on Saturday apportioned to Bulbul and Black Prince, who both accomplished the task alone. Mr. Lewis' nomination making the best time. Strategist and Enigma coupled, made better time over the same course than the stable companions Ting Haon and Corbie, but the last mentioned has put in more attractive work.

Mr. Toeg's champion Shannon is not an attractive mover, but for all that he puts up good time without any apparent effort. On Saturday he worked over a mile and a half, doing the first ten furlongs in exactly the same time as Pluto, whose portion was that distance. Both of these ponies are doing really well.

Trial time should always be taken with a great deal of caution. Although a firm believer in its usefulness to the owner or trainer, who knows exactly what's what, I am always reluctant to place any reliance in published form unless there to see. As an example

Thunderstorm's Derby distance on Saturday was covered in time equal to the best registered during the morning, but it was by no means the best gallop. Another Derby candidate with probably a stone more weight, went a longer course in slower time, and yet did just as well comparatively speaking.

In my notes of the 27th ult. a special reference was made to the possibility of successfully introducing Australian racing ponies.

If any of my readers are curious to obtain any further information on the subject an opportunity presents itself through the temporary presence in Hongkong of Mr. George G. Kiss of Sydney. Mr. Kiss is one of the best known stock and station agents in Australia, and an undoubted authority on all matters pertaining to racing. His present address is the Hongkong Club.

All sportsmen and Englishmen in particular will regret the death of the Duke of Westminster. He was beyond question one of the shining lights of the turf, and there are thousands of noble sports who will sadly miss his ever genial presence from the classic heaths of Great Britain. The late Duke started his racing career in the early seventies and was, undoubtedly, one of the best judges of a horse in England. His first purchase, Doncaster, cost fourteen thousand pounds, and this horse's name is the first registered in the list of famous sires that have formed part of the King's stud. Last year's Derby winner, Flying Fox, a horse that has so far been vanquished once only, and that in the early part of his two-year-old career, is a direct descendant of the fourteen thousand pounder. Like his illustrious grandsire, he has had his name written large on the scroll of horsey fame, through winning forty thousand pounds during last season in stakes alone. His racing career for the coming season has unfortunately been cut short, as the death of his late owner voids all his existing engagements, and puts him out of the few thousand pound races for 1900.

February 7th.

Monday and Tuesday morning were so cold that quite a number of the regular habitués of the track preferred the comfort of their rooms to the exhilarating influences of the early breezes, and the work accomplished was of no special moment, and the stay-at-homes probably had the best of it.

Thunderstorm and Rampant Rose are still the public fancy for the Derby. There are plenty of good judges, however, who consider the chances of several others, notably Ting Hoon, Strategist, Bulbul and Strathcona.

Bulbul has improved wonderfully during the last fortnight, and looks as if he belonged to the staying tribe.

Messrs. McKie and Gool's, who just missed last year's classic event, have a representative in the race to be decided next Tuesday week, whose chances are by no means small, and it is just on the cards that Strathcona, the pony in question, will compensate them for their past disappointment. Pitted against Strathflet, the runner up in the 1899 Champion, Strathcona did a sterling mile and a half yesterday morning, leaving the distance behind him in three thirty-three and a half. Considering the weather conditions the gallop was a good one and his owner, whose careful attention deserves a return, doubtless feel that they are not out of the hunt.

Modder is another Derby candidate, whose light, as far as the public are concerned, is yet under a bushel. Watch breaking has not been his mission, but the arrival of his owner might create a tendency in that direction. The pony shows plenty of quality and ought to be possessed of pace. Mr. Toeg has a good trial horse in Shannon, and the probabilities are that Modder has already been asked to show his hand.

Rescue, Subsidy, Orange Blossom and Cossack are probabilities for the Valley Stakes. Starton of course is the popular anticipation, but the others are still in it.

The owner of Rescue won this event last year with ultimatum, and was only just beaten in the German Cup with the same nomination. It would be a strange coincidence if the performance were repeated at the coming meet. Rescue is doing well and the thing is not improbable.

Subsidy is a suggestively named pony with a problematical chance. Orange Blossom, one of the taking sort, looks capable of holding his end of the stick up at the end of three-quarters of a mile. His condition is all that can be desired, and although the German Cup distance may be too far for him, the Valley Stakes ought to be near his reach.

The tendency to make one or two ponies absolute certainties for individual events is so pronounced, that the merits and performances of those not so highly fancied will be specially referred to hereafter.

February 8th.

Despite the fact that the weather yesterday morning was more congenial, the attendance at the track was not large. The going was in good order and a fair amount of solid work was put through.

The old ponies Sandstorm and Emerald left a mile and a quarter behind them in two fifty two and a half, the latter finishing in front. Sandstorm is one of the most taking ponies in the colony, and although a bit above himself is the picture of health. His last year's performances are still fresh in the minds of his admirers, who confidently expect him to do equally great things the week after next. Over short courses he is without doubt the pick of the stable basket.

White Rose, another old stager, put up a mile in two twenty. Mr. Buxey's erstwhile crack is not quite himself yet, but he is improving and may be all right on the day.



Mr. Hart Buck's Esperance worked over a mile and a half, finishing the last nine furlongs in two fifty-five and a half.

The top notchers Shannon and Pluto both did useful work. Shannon is attracting more attention every morning, and it is absolutely certain that he will not be a participator in the Consolation Stakes on the last day.

Charger shows signs of returning to something like his form. The old pony looks bright and worked satisfactorily over the Lusitano Cup course. Mr. David's Black Prince, whose name appears in the Derby list, finished the last mile of a one and a quarter gallop in two twenty two. Ting Haou easily vanquished his stable companion Pilgrim over the same distance. The subscription griffons, Major and Minor, who are also stable mates, went a mile in 2.22½.

Storm King and Pirate King, two of Mr. G. H. Potts' Derby nominations, were coupled together over nine furlongs. The journey was accomplished in 2.57½, both ponies finishing well. Desert King was asked to try conclusions with Forrest King over a mile and he did it successfully. Mr. Potts' candidates look as formidable as any of the other representatives, and the dark-blue and white hoops will catch the judge's eye more than once during the meeting.

Saturday morning's work should be full of interest, and will certainly attract a good attendance. The ponies should, by the end of the week, be showing some of their best form, and very little improvement can be looked for afterwards. The few subsequent gallops and pipe openers to which they will be subjected will do little more than round them off.

The Jockey Club announces that tickets of admission to the grand stand and enclosure may be obtained of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, whilst books are obtainable from Messrs. Noronha and elsewhere. The Stewards of the Club also request the pleasure of the presence of the ladies during the three days' racing. An enclosure is to be reserved for members, and members' wives and families. Tickets can be obtained by members applying to the clerk of the course, Mr. T. F. Hough. No servants are to be allowed inside the enclosure without tickets. These can also be procured from Mr. Hough.

A writer in yesterday's issue takes exception to the increase in the charges for admission. One hundred per cent. is in itself substantial enough, and when this is added to the old charge of two dollars for each day a large number of people are apt to wonder if the game is worth the candle. Ten dollars a day would not stop the sporting enthusiast, but as the writer points out, it is not he alone who makes a race meeting a success. The chances are that the extra charge will not keep a great many people away after all, but that the price is high cannot be gainsaid.

#### TRIDENT.

##### THURSDAY'S TIMES.

The following are the times of the various ponies taken at yesterday's gallops:—

|                          |             |      |      |      |      |        |
|--------------------------|-------------|------|------|------|------|--------|
| Shannon                  | 36          | 111½ | 146½ | 222  | 256  | 331½   |
| Corbie                   | 37          | 113  | 151  | 222  |      |        |
| Sandstorm                | 1½          | 35   | 108  | 142½ | 218  | 25½    |
| Emerald                  |             | 33   | 112  | 147  | 220  |        |
| White Rose 1             |             | 39½  | 115  | 151½ | 223  |        |
| Beechnut 1               |             | 36   | 109½ | 142½ | 217½ |        |
| Modder                   | 1           | 37½  | 114½ | 153½ | 227  | 302½   |
| Tiber                    |             | 38   | 118½ | 156  | 230  |        |
| Stratagist (1½) last 1½  |             | 34   | 106  |      |      |        |
| Beechwood                |             | 33   | 108  |      |      |        |
| Strathdonald             |             | 36½  | 113  | 148  | 222½ | 255½   |
| Yellow Dwarf             |             | 35   | 109  | 14½  | 217  |        |
| Esperance (1½) last 1½   |             | 36   | 112  | 147½ | 223½ | 256    |
| Standard                 | 1           | 47½  | 122½ | 202½ | 236  |        |
| Tea Rose                 |             | 34   | 113  | 147  | 220  | (256½) |
| Pluto (1½) last 1½       |             | 36   | 109  | 146½ | 221  | 257½   |
| Lukong                   |             | 36½  | 111  | 147½ | 221½ | 257½   |
| Charger (1½) last 1      |             | 36   | 114  | 147  | 222  |        |
| Storm King               | 1½          | 33   | 107  | 142½ |      |        |
| Pirate King              |             |      |      |      |      |        |
| Ting Haou                | 1½          |      |      |      |      |        |
| Pilgrim                  |             |      |      |      |      |        |
| Black Prince (1½) last 1 | 36          |      |      |      |      |        |
| Orange Blossom           | 1 (7 34)... | 33   |      |      |      |        |
| Dot Rose                 |             |      |      |      |      |        |
|                          |             |      |      | 34½  |      |        |
|                          |             |      |      | 217  |      |        |

|                 |     |     |      |         |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------|---------|
| 2 Demon King    | 38½ | 115 | 148  | 219½    |
| 1 Desert King   |     |     |      |         |
| 1 King Fisher   | 37  | 113 | 147½ | 220     |
| Lapwing         |     |     |      |         |
| Diplomat 1      | 38  | 115 | 226½ | 304 333 |
| Sartow 2 (7 32) | 33  | 109 | 146  |         |
|                 |     |     | 32   |         |

|                           |     |     |      |      |
|---------------------------|-----|-----|------|------|
| Tartar                    | 32½ | 103 | 143  | 211  |
| Rose de France (1) last 1 | 34  | 108 |      |      |
| 1 Mirror                  | 35½ | 112 | 147  | 211  |
| 2 Major                   |     |     |      |      |
| Pedigree                  | 33½ | 113 | 149½ | 222½ |
| Saw King (1) last 1       | 40  | 119 | 153½ |      |

#### FOOTBALL.

##### HONGKONG ENGINEERS VERSUS 38TH CO. S.D., R.A.

In the first round the Engineers defeated F. Coy. R.W.F. by 3 goals to nil after a drawn game, and 38th Coy. rather luckily put out A Coy. R.W.F. by 2 goals to 1. On Saturday the above teams met on the Hongkong Football Club's ground to decide which should take part in the semi-final. A very close game was expected but the Engineers were if anything the favourites. Mr. Mayson was not available as referee so Mr. F. Browne undertook the responsibilities of the position.

The teams were:—

Engineers:—G. Moore, goal; Lapsley and Dyer, backs; Ritchie, Wilson and Tuohy, halves; and Duncan, Smillie, McGuire, Noble and Blades, forwards.

38th Co. S.D., R.A.:—Murphy, goal; Wilson and P. S. Bell, backs; Richardson, Kelly and Gidman, halves; and Harris, Frost, Stiles, Milns and P. Bell, forwards.

The Engineers kicked off in the direction of the dressing shed and immediately assumed the offensive. A couple of free kicks gave relief to the defenders but their forwards could make no shape against the Engineers' halves and backs. Ritchie, who was playing very strongly, ran close in and shot, but the goal-keeper saved by giving a corner.

The 38th Company then broke away but Ritchie was again in evidence and checked, and the Engineers were once more on the aggressive. There was no mistaking the fact that the civilians were having the best of it for their defence completely held the gunners forwards. Their forwards too, exhibited superior form to anything they have previously shown this season, so the net result was a big improvement all round.

From a nice pass by Smillie, McGuire took a shot at goal, which however one of the backs diverted, giving a corner. Duncan made a beautiful corner kick dropping the ball right in the midst of the players only a few feet from the goal mouth, and Blades dashing in rushed it through, registering the first goal.

After this the R. A. made a very strong attack, the left half giving great support to his forwards, but the Engineers' defence was very sound and after a while warded them off. Then the Gunners' goal was lucky to escape capture. McGuire after good work passed out to Blades and this player made a grand attempt striking the cross bar. The ubiquitous McGuire was again on the ball at the rebound and essayed a beauty, barely topping the bar. The Gunners were kept continually defending. Ritchie dribbled up from half back and shooting in caused the goal-keeper to give a corner which however Duncan put behind. Later McGuire had a chance but shot high over; then the 38th Co made a brief visit to the other end. The outside left made a good centre but the ball went over the line. From now to half time the Engineers attacked persistently their forwards especially McGuire, playing finely. The centre worked very hard and combined well with his in side men, Smillie and Noble, who were both in the best of form. Blades got in some wonderful centres and shots from the touch line. Duncan from a neat pass by Smillie got in a fine shot which the right back first managed to intercept with his head.

Noble and McGuire missed a chance between them; then Duncan spoiled a good opportunity by putting over, and, although Blades made a great effort from a pass by McGuire, half time arrived with the score unchanged.

|                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Engineers            | 3 |
| 38th Coy. S.D., R.A. | 0 |

The R. A. kicked off on resuming but play was rather slack for a little while. After about 7 or 8 minutes give and take play the Engineers right wing got away, and McGuire, receiving a centre from Duncan close in, had not the slightest difficulty in turning it to account.

The Engineers pressed but found the Gunners' backs and goal keeper very stubborn and hard to beat.

A good combined-movement was made by noble, Blades, McGuire, Tuohy, and Smillie, but the effort came to naught. Noble had a chance but shot weakly into the goal keeper's hands; then a little later Duncan had hard lines with a strong oblique shot, first a trifle too high. The 38th Coy. got away in a strong run. They were checked but soon returned and then inside right put in a very fine shot which was almost too good for Moore. Although not able to hold at first attempt he however, eventually brought off a smart clearance. Then followed a very fine combined run by McGuire Smillie and Duncan which culminated in Smillie putting in a very fast one just a little wide of the mark.

Although the Engineers monopolized the attack the game was a very hard one. After some good passing by Blades and McGuire, Noble made a very weak shot. The Gunners broke away a couple of times the whole five forwards coming away in good line and an excellent shot was put in from the left wing, but Moore effected a fine save. Good work by Noble and McGuire nearly brought about the downfall of the R. A. goal once more, as McGuire struck the bar from close in and the rebound just went over Noble's head. The Engineers held the advantage to the finish, an excellent game ending:—

|                 |      |
|-----------------|------|
| Engineers       | 2    |
| 38th S.D., R.A. | nil. |

The Engineers' form was much in advance of anything they have before shown this season, the improvement being altogether in the forward rank.

Their defence is about the strongest in the Colony, a little want of judgment on the part of Tuohy now and again being the only fault I can find. I don't wish to make any invidious distinctions but must say that McGuire is a most valuable acquisition to the team. On Saturday's form the Engineers are very strong candidates for the Shield and should the Hongkong Club get through its tie the semi-final between these two will be the tit-bit of the competition. The 38th Coy. made a good fight but was beaten by a stronger team. Its goal-keeper and backs were the most prominent of its players and did exceedingly well, but the forwards and halves did not show to advantage. Altogether the game was very enjoyable, being almost free from infringements of the rules.

This was fortunate as Mr. Browne is not sufficient of an athlete to keep up with a fast game.

#### NOTES.

In certain quarters G. Coy R.W.F. are fancied rather much for the shield. They beat the V. R. C. in the first round by 3 goals to nil but this in itself is not a great performance. The fact that they have beaten B Coy R.W. F. this season by 5 goals to one is a better testimonial, but not withstanding all this, I think they will find the Club too good for them in the next tie. However it won't do for the club to think they have a "soft thing."

#### QUIDNUNC.

An Association football match was played Wednesday afternoon between a team of the Hongkong Football Club and eleven sergeants of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers. Play was very poor on both sides, the Sergeants being especially weak. The game resulted in a win for the Club by four goals to one. The defence of the Sergeants was the best feature of their play, their forwards, especially the right wing, missing chance after chance of shooting into goal. It is to be trusted they can shoot somewhat better with the rifle than with the football. Butland, captain of the Victorious team, played an excellent game for the Club, securing most of the goals. Looker took it calmly at full back.

A match was arranged on Wednesday afternoon between the team from the Victorious and a



team from the Welsh Footballers. The sailors were all in harness on the ground but the soldiers did not turn up.

The Hongkong Football Club met the 38th Co., S.D., R.A., in a friendly game on the 5th inst. Noble scored in the first half, and as this was the only point obtained, the game ended in the Club's favour by 1 goal to nil.

### THE DETHRONEMENT OF KUANG HSU.

The following Imperial decrees are taken from the *N. C. Daily News*:-

23rd January.

#### TO RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING A NEW EMPEROR.

The Grand Secretariat is hereby Commanded to transmit our instructions to the following persons:-P'u Wei, Prince of Kung, 1st Order, Princes Tsai Lien and Tsai Ying, 3rd Order, and Duke Tsai Lan; also the members of the Grand Secretariat, Lord Chamberlain, Ministers of the Presence, Grand Council, Board of Comptrollers-General of the Imperial Household Department, the Manchu and Chinese Presidents of the Six Boards, and Nine Ministries, and the heads of the Imperial Academy and Library. The above-named are hereby commanded to assemble in the Palace to-morrow morning (24th January) and await further instructions.

Notes:-To assemble such men as those noted above and at such a time and place is permissible only when there is a serious national crisis, to report the sudden death of the Emperor, or to tell them of the appointment of a new occupant of the Dragon Throne.—Translator.

24th January.

#### THE RESIGNATION OF THE EMPEROR KUANG HSU.

While yet in our infancy we were by grace of the Emperor Tung Chih chosen to succeed him in the heavy responsibilities of Head of the whole Empire, and when his Majesty died we sought day and night to be deserving of such kindness by energy and faithfulness in our duties. We were also indebted to the Empress Dowager who taught and cherished us assiduously and to her we owe our safety to the present day. Now be it also known that, when selected to the Throne, it was then agreed that if ever we should have a son, that son should be proclaimed heir to the Throne. But ever since last year (1898) we have been constantly ill and it was for this reason that in the 8th month of that year (September, 1898, referring to the *coup d'etat*—Translator), the Empress Dowager graciously acceded to our urgent prayers and took over the reins of government in order to instruct us in our duties. A year has now passed and still we find ourselves an invalid; but ever keeping in our mind that we do not belong to the direct line of succession and that for the sake of the safety of the empire of our ancestors a legal heir should be selected to the Throne, We again prayed the Empress Dowager to carefully choose from amongst the members of the Imperial Clan such an one, and this she has done in the person of P'u Chun, son of Tsai Yi, Prince Tuan, 2nd Order.

#### KUANG HSU PROCLAIMS THE NEW EMPEROR.

We hereby command that P'u Chun, the son of Tuan, 2nd Order, be made heir to the late Emperor Tung Chih.

Note:-In other words to succeed Tung Chih as Emperor, while it makes Kuang Hsu a usurper of the Throne, his election as successor of Tung Chih being, after 25 years, suddenly discovered to have been illegal!—Translator.

#### TUTORS FOR THE NEW EMPEROR.

The Ta A-ko (the usual designation of the Manchus for an Emperor's son—Translator) being still young in years and at the age for instruction, We (these decrees are still made to appear as if issued by Kuang Hsu himself—Translator) hereby appoints Chung Yi (Father-in-law of Tung Chih, to be Imperial Tutor, and the Grand Secretary Hsu Tung (Chinese Bannerman) is to be always by the Prince's side to attend to him. The Court of the Prince is to be in the Western Palace (the Empress Dowager's quarters).

Note—The character used to express where the new Emperor is to reside are *chu-pih* only

used in relation to the Emperor's coming and going, while the new Emperor himself in the decree is merely designated. "Ta A-ko" or son of the Emperor—an egregious breach of Court etiquette.—Translator.

#### THE DATES FOR HAILING THE NEW EMPEROR.

The Princes and Ministers and Presidents of the various Boards and Ministries are hereby ordered to wear full Court dress on the 25th and 26th instant and be prepared with *Ju-i* (jade or wooden sceptres) on those days.

Note—These sceptres are only carried on the ascension of a new Emperor to the Throne.—Translator.

We translate the following items, issued in a special supplement by the *Universal Gazette*, concerning the excitement into which Chinese in various parts of the country and elsewhere have been thrown upon receipt of the news that the Emperor Kuang Hsu's legal heirloom to the Throne of the late Emperor Tung Chih had been ignored, and that an heir had been selected in the person of the six-year-old son of Prince Tuan, the second son of the Emperor Tao Kuang's fifth brother, commonly known as Prince Tun or the Fifth Prince.

"We have been informed that a number of the officials, gentry and *literati* of Hupeh province have drawn up memorials to the Empress Dowager, protesting against this violation of the laws of primogeniture, which the writers themselves intend to take up to Peking, travelling overland. The memorials also demand that the Emperor be permitted to resume the reins of government.—Telegrams from the principal Chinese residing in the islands of the Southern Pacific and Indian oceans, and California, have passed through Shanghai addressed to the Tsungli Yamen, announcing the surprise and pain of the senders upon learning of the deposition of Kuang Hsu and the selection of an heir to the Throne, and strongly protesting against such a thing. The telegrams further pray that the Emperor be permitted to resume the reins of government, which if not granted would make all (Chinese) lose their faith in the dynasty, so that from henceforth no one could guarantee the future stability of the Empire. Finally, 'should the Empress Dowager persist in her intention to appoint a new Emperor, the protesters and all who are of one mind will return to the land of their ancestors to support H.I.M. Kuang Hsu.'—It is stated that the Empress Dowager and her advisers, being afraid of a revolution in Peking, have applied to the Russian Government for help, and that, accordingly, Russian troops are expected at Peking soon.—It is reliably reported that the Japanese Government has, through its Minister at Peking, protested against this action of the Empress Dowager.—The Empress Dowager is said to depend upon the Manchu troops (the Husheng Brigade) of Prince Tuan (the father of the new heir-apparent) for protection, and to suppress any disturbances with a strong hand. His troops number nearly 10,000 men, and he is also hand-in-glove with the "Boxers" and other anti-foreign bands in Shantung, Chihli, and Honan provinces."—*N. C. Daily News*.

#### HONGKONG.

The *Victorious* is expected to go home in March, when she will be replaced on this station by a battleship of a similar class but lighter in draught. The *Revenge* most likely. The *Victorious* had very cold weather on her way down, the rails and guns being covered with ice formed by the frozen spray.

The Hon. T. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., left by the German mail, on Thursday. He is expected to be absent until the end of the year on a holiday, and his duties will be taken over by the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., who in turn will be succeeded by Mr. F. T. Budeley, as acting Superintendent of Police. Commander R. Murray Ramsey will also proceed home on furlough, and (Mr. Basil Taylor will be appointed acting Harbour-master. There is to be quite an exodus of residents for home this spring, among others Sir Thomas Jackson, who goes home in April.

Five cases of plague were reported in the Colony for the week ending 3rd inst., and three deaths.

The Hon. Wei A Yuk, J.P., has sustained serious bereavement in the death of his son, Wei Wing Yiu, aged 18 years, who passed away on the 8th inst. after a short illness at "Crimford," Robinson Road. Our readers will join us in our expression of sympathy with the hon. gentleman in his bereavement.

A branch of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank has been opened in Hongkong, Mr. F. Urbig being appointed manager. The German Bank does a large business at Shanghai, and will no doubt be welcomed in Hongkong, though we are fairly well provided with banks. Yet banks are good institutions to have in our midst, and their number denotes the colony's prosperity, therefore we may extend the Mafeking invitation to "Let 'em all come."

Sir John Carrington, Kt., D.C.L., C.M.G. (Chief Justice), who has been on leave since April last, arrived on the 7th inst. in the German mail steamer *Bayern*. The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Attorney-General), who has been Acting Chief Justice during Sir John's absence, Mr. J. W. Norton Kyshe (Registrar), and Mr. A. Seth (Deputy Registrar) went on board and welcomed him back to Hongkong. Our readers will be pleased to learn that Sir John returns in the best of health.

Quite a number of the legal fraternity of Hongkong assembled in St. John's Cathedral on the 2nd inst., at noon to witness the wedding of Mr. Ernest Hamilton Sharp, Barrister-at-Law, and Miss S. S. Cunliffe. The nuptial knot was tied by the Right Rev. Bishop of Victoria (Dr. Hoare), who was assisted by the Rev. F. Cobbold, M.A. The Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Acting Chief Justice) gave away the bride, who was prettily dressed in white. The Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney General) was best man. After the ceremony Mrs. Vallings gave a beautiful rendering of "The Lord is mindful of his own." Mr. A. G. Ward played the newly married pair out of Church to the strains of the Wedding March. Amongst those present were Mr. and Mrs. E. Hamilton Sharp, parents of the bridegroom, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mrs. Francis, Lieut. and Mrs. Bagnall-Wilde, Mrs. and the Misses May, Mr. Francis Clark, Mrs. Bottenheim, Mr. and Mrs. E. Robinson, Mrs. W. H. Potts, Commander Kelly, R.N., and Mr. Dick Melbourne. The bride and bridegroom left for Macao by the *Heungshon* in the afternoon, Captain Clark having dressed the ship for the occasion.

At the Supreme Court on the 6th inst., before His Honor W. Meigh Goodman (Acting Chief Justice), the Hon. H. E. Pollock (Acting Attorney General) said he begged leave to move, under the provisions of Ordinance 3 of 1871, that Mr. Harold Kennard Holmes be approved, admitted, and enrolled to practice as an attorney and proctor of that honourable court. His Lordship would see that that application was supported by an affidavit by Mr. Holmes himself. Mr. Pollock read this affidavit, which stated that Mr. Holmes had served as an articled clerk for the necessary period with his late father, Mr. H. J. Holmes. Continuing, Mr. Pollock said he thought his Lordship would also have before him the certificate which had been given by the examiners who recently examined Mr. Holmes as regarded his qualifications to practice as a solicitor. That certificate was given by himself as one of the examiners and also by Mr. A. P. Stokes and Mr. C. Evans. They were unanimously of opinion as the result of that examination that Mr. Holmes was qualified to practice as an attorney and solicitor, so far as his legal knowledge was concerned.—His Lordship: I have very much pleasure, Mr. Holmes, in approving and admitting you to be an attorney and proctor of this court, and in directing that you may be duly enrolled on the list of professional gentlemen who are entitled to practice in this court, after you have taken the necessary oaths which are required by the statute. I trust that by your honourable and upright conduct you will uphold the best traditions of an honourable profession. Situated as we are in this colony in the midst of a large alien population, it is astonishing how much good and how much evil may be done by a member of the legal profession. I look to you to uphold all the better side, and to see that the legal profession is worthy of the respect in which it has always been held here. I have much pleasure in admitting you, Mr. Holmes.



During the week ending 4th February there were 10,272 visitors to the Hongkong Museum, including 205 Europeans. The Museum was closed on Wednesday and Thursday for the Chinese New Year Holidays. On Friday no less than 5,417 Chinese (men and boys) visited the Museum, while on Saturday there were 3,549 visitors, Chinese women and children.

At the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening, 3rd inst., the dramatic company in connection with the U. S. S. *Baltimore* gave an entertainment before a crowded house. The programme opened with an amusing little sketch entitled, "From the Navy to the Footlights and back again," in which the following took part:—C. W. Bastian, P. D. Goebel, G. Galliger, F. W. Shannon, T. R. Spear, G. B. Pollard, Lou. C. Smith, J. Haperty, Simon, Bolster, and Kyle next gave an exhibition of tumbling and contortion; Mr. J. Heil following with a sentimental song. A farce—"Home, sweet home"—was given by G. Gallier and J. Haggerty. A capital turn was given by G. B. Pollard and F. W. Shannon, song and dance artists and cake-walkers. The performance of Bastian and Kyle on the trapeze was also very good. Mr. John Haggerty's buck and wing dancing was much appreciated. The farce "Ireland versus Germany," by F. Ruley and T. R. Spear, was followed by a performance on the slack wire by Mr. Charles Simon. The programme concluded with a tableau, "Hands across the sea," in which two blue-jackets appeared. Their right hands were clasped and in their left hands one held the American flag and the other the British white ensign. A. Olsson, gunner, is the president and general manager of the company; Lou. C. Smith, secretary; P. J. Goebel, stage manager; and C. N. Evan, property manager.

On the afternoon of the 8th a number of the members of the Hongkong Police Force, with their wives, assembled at the Central Police Station for the purpose of making a presentation to Sergeant James Williamson and Mrs. Williamson in commemoration of their wedding. The souvenir consisted of a silver tea set and flower bowl of an exceedingly beautiful design.—Chief Detective-Inspector Hanson, who was called on by Sergeant McSwayed, said: Mr. and Mrs. Williamson, I have been asked to present to you, on behalf of the subscribers, this silver tea set and flower bowl. I do so with very great pleasure. I know you both. I was one of those who selected the gift, and I hope that the amount of appreciation which it will carry as such will be equal to our anxiety to choose something you would like and something which would remind you of China. I hope, therefore, that in making this selection we have chosen the right thing, and trust you will value it accordingly. In days to come, when we are no longer together, I hope you will be reminded by looking upon it of the friends whom you now see around you, and trust it will be the means of keeping our memories green.—Sergeant Williamson, in reply, said: Mr. Hanson, ladies and gentlemen, I beg most respectfully to thank you for this very nice souvenir which you have been kind enough to present to myself and Mrs. Williamson. We shall certainly appreciate what you have given us. I cannot find words to thank you for your kindness. It is more than I expected. It never came to my mind that such kindness would be shown to us. I again thank you on behalf of myself and Mrs. Williamson for your handsome gifts.—The healths of Mr. and Mrs. Williamson having been drunk, the proceedings terminated.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### SILK.

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

|                | 1899-1900 | 1898-9 |
|----------------|-----------|--------|
|                | bales.    | bales. |
| Shanghai ..... | 60,760    | 49,588 |
| Canton .....   | 24,784    | 24,138 |
| Yokohama ..... | 16,167    | 16,263 |

102,711

89,989

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

|                | 1899-1900 | 1898-9 |
|----------------|-----------|--------|
|                | bales.    | bales. |
| Shanghai ..... | 14,860    | 6,480  |
| Canton .....   | 7,645     | 7,901  |
| Yokohama ..... | 24,682    | 19,214 |
|                | 47,187    | 33,595 |

##### CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—The price is a little higher, holders being firm. Quotations for Formosa are \$81.50 to \$82.00; sales 200 piculs.

##### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—The upward tendency continues, demands being large. Quotations are:—

|                            |                  |      |
|----------------------------|------------------|------|
| Shakloong, No. 1, White... | \$8.45 to \$8.50 | cl.  |
| do. " 2, White...          | 7.60 to 7.65     | "    |
| Shakloong, No. 1, Brown... | 5.65 to 5.70     | pol. |
| do. " 2, Brown...          | 5.40 to 5.43     | "    |
| Swatow, No. 1, White...    | 8.15 to 8.20     | "    |
| do. " 1, White...          | 7.85 to 7.90     | "    |
| Swatow, No. 1, Brown...    | 5.30 to 5.35     | "    |
| do. " 2, Brown...          | 5.20 to 5.25     | "    |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....   | 12.10 to 12.15   | "    |
| Siekloung .....            | 11.00 to 11.05   | "    |

##### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Diomed*, sailed on the 9th January. For London:—145 boxes tea (3,045 lbs. congou, 500 boxes tea particulars unknown), 200 casks and 525 cases preserves, 917 cases shell, 104 cases Chinaware, 27 cases blackwoodware, 16 cases blackwoodware, 11 cases feather dusters, 20 cases cigars, 50 cases essential oil, 10 cases cotton goods, 20 bales waste silk, 79 bales hemp, 66 bales canes, 107 rolls milling, 3 packages blinds, 22 packages sundries. For London option Hamburg:—500 cases ginger, 118 bales canes, 4 bales turnerio, and 100 bales galungal. For Liverpool:—100 cases wet ginger, 100 bales canes, 5 bales split bamboo, and 18 packages sundries. For Manchester:—255 bales waste silk and 3 cases ginger. For Glasgow:—5 cases curios. For Hamburg:—25 cases bristles. For Odessa:—115 bales canes, and 6 bales cassia.

Per steamer *Antenor*, sailed on the 23rd January. For London:—50 casks and 350 cases preserves, 12 cases camphor-wood boxes, 12 cases blackwoodware, 26 cases Chinaware, 18 cases bristles, 54 cases turmeric, 59 cases cigars, 20 cases essential oil, 5 cases gongs, 8 cases and 221 bales feathers, 35 bales canes, 613 bales hemp, 528 rolls matting, 670 bags gum, and 49 packages sundries. For London option Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—225 bales canes. For Liverpool:—30 cases ginger, 6 cases curios, 11 packages pith, and 21 packages household effects. For Glasgow:—200 casks ginger and 1 case curios. For Hamburg:—11 bales canes.

Per steamer *Caledonien*, sailed on the 29th January. For Marseilles:—81 bales raw silk, 10 cases silks, 30 cases curios, 5 cases Chinaware, 4 cases tea, 13 packages hair, 12 cases feathers, 600 cases cassia, 122 rolls matting. For Lyons:—221 bales raw silk. For London:—3 cases silks and 10 cases bristles.

Per German steamer *Karlsruhe*, sailed on the 24th January. For Beyrouth:—30 cases cassia, 5 rolls matting, 1 box tea, and 1 box silk goods. For Trieste:—50 bales rattan shavings. For Genoa:—190 bales raw silk, 3 cases silk piece goods, and 1 case Japanese ware. For Antwerp:—400 bales split bamboo, 50 cases Chinaware, 50 bales feathers, 50 bales bamboo scraps, 33 bales rattan core, 20 cases preserves 20 cases cassia, 4 cases teasticks, and 3 cases sundries. For Antwerp/London:—170 bales split bamboo. For Antwerp/Hamburg:—180 bales feathers, 178 bales bamboo scraps, and 25 cases bristles. For Antwerp/Hamburg/London:—14 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—10 cases teasticks. For Rotterdam:—6 bales canes and 2 cases Chinaware. For Bremen:—101 rolls matting and 4 cases cigars. For Hamburg:—372 rolls matting, 83 cases canes, 40 bales feathers, 34 cases sundries, 6 cases bristles, and 1 case cigars. For Hamburg/London:—20 cases essential oil and 7 cases human hair.

Per steamer *Bombay*, sailed on the 27th January. For Manchester:—1 case blackwoodware. For Amsterdam:—6 casks Chinaware, 5 packages lychees, and 1 case sundries. For London:—108 bales hemp, and 53 cases cigars from Manila. For Manchester:—210 bales waste silk, 150 packages tea, 1 box photo films, 3 boxes effects and curios, 3 boxes electric gear, 9 cases furniture, 16 packages staves, 1 dacket blackwood, 13 boxes curios, 25 cases,

blackwoodware, 78 cases Chinaware, 1 case, fash 545 rolls mats and matting, 12 cases cigars, 59 bales feathers, 16 cases canes, 40 cases bristles, and 8 cases preserved ginger.

Per P. & O. steamer *Valetta*, sailed on the 3rd February. For London:—1 case cigars from Manila, 2 cases silks, 8 cases cigars, 1 case feathers, 200 rolls matting, and 5 cases sundries. For Marseilles:—1 case silks. For Lyons:—30 bales raw silk.

##### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—Bengal.—In sympathy with the market at Calcutta rates have had a very considerable advance, the market closing firm at \$970 for Patna and \$1,010 for Benares per chest.

Malwa.—The market for this drug has been quiet during the past week, closing quotations being:—

|                                                                                                                                                                                  |               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| New at \$960 with allowance up to 3 catties                                                                                                                                      |               |
| Old at \$980                                                                                                                                                                     | 1 catty       |
| Persian.—There has been no change to report during the past week and rates continue the same. Oily is quoted at \$820 and Paper-tied opium at 650 to \$870 according to quality. |               |
| To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—                                                                                                                                         |               |
| Patna .....                                                                                                                                                                      | 1,316 chests. |
| Benares .....                                                                                                                                                                    | 278 "         |
| Malwa .....                                                                                                                                                                      | 600 "         |
| Persian .....                                                                                                                                                                    | 1,900 "       |

##### COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

| DATE.  | PATNA. |     | BENARES. |     | MALWA. |       |
|--------|--------|-----|----------|-----|--------|-------|
|        | New    | Old | New      | Old | New    | Old   |
| 1900   |        |     |          |     |        |       |
| Feb. 3 | \$960  | —   | \$980    | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 4 | \$960  | —   | \$980    | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 5 | \$960  | —   | \$980    | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 6 | \$970  | —   | \$1010   | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 7 | \$970  | —   | \$1010   | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 8 | \$970  | —   | \$1010   | —   | \$980  | \$980 |
| Feb. 9 | \$970  | —   | \$1010   | —   | \$980  | \$980 |

##### RICE.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—More demands having come forward, the prices are gradually advancing. Quotations are:—

|                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary .....               | \$3.05 to 3.10 |
| " Round, Good quality .....          | 3.35 to 3.40   |
| " Long .....                         | 3.45 to 3.50   |
| Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ... | 3.25 to 3.30   |
| " Garden, " No. 1 ...                | 3.50 to 3.55   |
| " White .....                        | 3.85 to 3.87   |
| " Fine Cargo .....                   | 4.17 to 4.22   |

##### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn:—550 bales No. 10 at \$87 to \$95, 20 bales No. 12 at \$79 to \$94, 100 bales No. 16 at \$101, 250 bales, No. 20 at \$102 to \$108. Grey Shirtings.—600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Seal at \$3.15, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.60, 900 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$3.05, 3,000 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss at \$3.52½, 3,000 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.57½, 1,800 pieces 8½ lbs. 4 Dragons at \$3.47½, 750 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Ticket at \$4.60, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$3.10, 600 pieces 10 lbs. Mandarin at \$4.45, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Gold Lion at \$4.70, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Seal at \$3.60, 2,400 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Fish at \$3.10. White Shirtings.—1,250 pieces No. 3 at \$4.20, 500 pieces No. 600 at \$4.72½, 500 pieces Dragon at \$4.30, 1,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6.20, 100 pieces No. 600 at \$4.75, 500 pieces No. 1,000 at \$2.60, 1,000 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.20, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$4.60, 500 pieces S. Q. at \$5.15, 1,200 pieces Blue Lion at \$7.15, 500 pieces C Chop at \$6.57½, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$7.2, 1,000 pieces D 70 at \$4.40, 500 pieces S. Q. at \$5.17½, 750 pieces Flower Chop at \$5.80, 600 pieces Fox and Duck at \$6.25, 250 pieces No. 600 at \$4.77½. T. Cloths.—750 pieces 7 lbs. No. 1 Silver Lion at \$2.11, 750 pieces No. 2 at \$2.07, 750 pieces Red Stag at \$2.80, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$3.07½, 750 pieces 7 lbs. do. at \$2.75, 1,600 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.82½, 1,200 pieces 8 lbs. V V at \$3.45, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.80.

METALS.—Yellow Metal.—100 pieces New Brand 14/20 at \$42.30 piece. 1 piece at \$43.50.

| COTTON YARN—              |  | per bale         |
|---------------------------|--|------------------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 24 ...  |  | 76.00 to 110.00  |
| English—Nos. 16 to 21 ... |  | 110.00 to 115.00 |
| " 23 to 31 ...            |  | 112.00 to 118.00 |
| " 28 to 34 ...            |  | 120.00 to 131.00 |
| " 38 to 42 ...            |  | 140.00 to 148.00 |



| COTTON FIBRE GOODS—                    |                | per piece        |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Grey Shirtings—5 lbs.                  | 1.50 to 1.90   |                  |
| 7 lbs.                                 | 2.05 to 2.15   |                  |
| 8.4 lbs.                               | 2.35 to 2.35   |                  |
| 9 to 10 lbs.                           | 2.55 to 2.40   |                  |
| White Shirtings—51 to 56 rd.           | 2.40 to 2.80   |                  |
| 58 to 60 "                             | 2.85 to 3.55   |                  |
| 61 to 66 "                             | 3.80 to 4.85   |                  |
| Fine .....                             | 4.65 to 7.55   |                  |
| Book-folds.                            | 4.05 to 5.95   |                  |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards                | 0.70 to 1.35   |                  |
| T-Cloths—6 lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.       | 1.60 to 1.85   |                  |
| 7 lbs. (32 in.), "                     | 1.92 to 2.20   |                  |
| 6 lbs. (32 in.), Mexs.                 | 1.70 to 1.90   |                  |
| 7 lbs. (32 in.), "                     | 2.30 to 2.90   |                  |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)                 | 2.60 to 3.35   |                  |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs. | 3.80 to 6.60   |                  |
| FANCY COTTONS—                         |                | per piece        |
| Turkey Red Shirtings—14 to 16 lbs.     | 1.85 to 7.00   |                  |
| Brocades—Dyed .....                    | 4.00 to 5.50   |                  |
|                                        |                | per yard         |
| Chintzes—Assorted .....                | 0.07 to 0.16   |                  |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in .....             | 0.22 to 0.60   |                  |
| Velveteens—18 in .....                 | 0.21 to 0.25   |                  |
|                                        |                | per dozen        |
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk           | 0.80 to 2.00   |                  |
| WOOLLENS—                              |                | per yard         |
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.          | 0.90 to 1.60   |                  |
| German .....                           | — to —         |                  |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths.         | 1.55 to 5.75   |                  |
|                                        |                | per piece        |
| Long Ells—Scarlet .....                | 6.50 to 10.00  |                  |
| Assorted .....                         | 6.60 to 10.00  |                  |
| Camlets—Assorted .....                 | 12.50 to 32.00 |                  |
| Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted  | 9.50 to 22.00  |                  |
| Orleans—Plain .....                    | 8.50 to 10.00  |                  |
|                                        |                | per pair         |
| Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. (pair) ...       | 4.00 to 15.00  |                  |
| METALS—                                |                | per picul        |
| Iron—Nail Rod .....                    | 6.50 to —      |                  |
| Square, Flat Round Bar ...             | 6.50 to —      |                  |
| Swedish Bar .....                      | 8.00 to —      |                  |
| Small Round Rod .....                  | 7.00 to —      |                  |
| Hoop 3 to 11/2 in., .....              | 7.50 to —      |                  |
| Wire 15/25 .....                       | 11.00 to —     |                  |
| Old Wire Rope .....                    | 3.00 to —      |                  |
| Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop        | 10.20 to —     |                  |
| Australian .....                       | 10.10 to —     |                  |
| Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz.          | 41.50 to —     |                  |
| Vivian's, 14/20 oz.                    | 41.50 to —     |                  |
| Elliot's, 14/20 oz.                    | 41.50 to —     |                  |
| New Chop, 14/20 oz.                    | — to —         |                  |
| Composition Nails .....                | 65.00 to —     |                  |
| Japan Copper, Slabs .....              | 39.00 to —     |                  |
| Tin .....                              | 96.00 to —     |                  |
|                                        |                | per box.         |
| Tin-Plates .....                       | 8.30 to —      |                  |
|                                        |                | per cwt. case.   |
| Steel 1/2 to 1/2 .....                 | 7.50 to —      |                  |
| SUNDRIES—                              |                | per picul        |
| Quicksilver .....                      | 172.00 to —    |                  |
|                                        |                | per box.         |
| Window Glass .....                     | 6.10 to —      |                  |
|                                        |                | per 10-gal. case |
| Kerosene Oil .....                     | 2.90 to —      |                  |

## EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 9th February.

| ON LONDON.—                          |             |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Telegraphic Transfer .....           | 1/11 1/2    |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....          | 1/11 1/2    |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....  | 1/11 1/2    |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ..... | 1/11 1/2    |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight .....    | 1/11 1/2    |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight   | 1/11 1/2    |
| ON PARIS.—                           |             |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....          | 2.44 1/2    |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight .....    | .49 1/2     |
| ON GERMANY.—                         |             |
| On demand .....                      | 199 1/2     |
| ON NEW YORK.—                        |             |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....          | .47 1/2     |
| Credits, 60 days' sight .....        | .48 1/2     |
| ON BOMBAY.—                          |             |
| Telegraphic Transfer .....           | 144         |
| Bank, on demand .....                | 144 1/2     |
| ON CALCUTTA.—                        |             |
| Telegraphic Transfer .....           | 144         |
| Bank, on demand .....                | 144 1/2     |
| ON SHANGHAI.—                        |             |
| Bank, at sight .....                 | 72 1/2      |
| Private, 30 days' sight .....        | 73 1/2      |
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                        |             |
| On demand .....                      | 4 1/2 % pm. |
| ON MANILA.—                          |             |
| On demand .....                      | 2 1/2 % pm. |

| ON SINGAPORE.—                 |             |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| On demand .....                | 1 % pm.     |
| ON HAIPHONG.—                  |             |
| on demand .....                | 2 1/2 % pm. |
| ON SAIGON.—                    |             |
| On demand .....                | 2 % pm.     |
| ON BANGKOK.—                   |             |
| On demand .....                | 61          |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | 10.25       |
| GOLD LEAF, 100 fine per tael   | 53          |

## JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 9th February.—The market has ruled rather quiet but rates have been well maintained and a fair general business transacted.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai continue more or less neglected with only small sales at \$334 and \$333 to report, the market closes quiet at \$333 per cent. premium. London rate per Renter £60. Nationals have changed hands at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—No business is reported under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$335 and Chinas at \$88 1/2 and \$89 both closing steady at those rates.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao ruled weak in the early part of the week with sales at \$29 1/2 and 29 1/2, at time of closing however they are steadier at \$29 1/2. Indo Chinas continue dull with but small sales at \$38, market closing with sellers at that rate. Douglases are on offer at \$48 without bringing any buyers on the market. China Manilas and China Mutuans are both in demand without any sales to report.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have found buyers in small lots at from \$116. to \$118 closing steady at latter rate. Luzons unchanged and without business.

MINING.—Punjoms continue quiet with only a small business at \$5.60 and 5.50. Charbonnages steady but with no sales at \$350. Oliver B's have changed hands at the reduced rate of \$4 1/2 and \$4 1/2, owing to a poorer crushing than usual. (152 oz. from 298 tons, mill working only 12 days) Jebebus have been negotiated to a limited extent at quotation. Caledonians have changed hands at 90, 85 and 80 cents. closing quiet at 92 1/2 cents for the new shares. Raubs continue steady at \$62, but without much business.

LOCKS WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have found buyers in small lots at \$550 for cash and \$555 for settlements, market closing quiet at \$550. Kowloon Wharves continue to change hands in unimportant lots at \$84 closing steady at that rate. Amoy Docks and Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled firm and with buyers and no sellers at \$116 the rate gradually rose to \$118 after small sales at \$117 and \$117 1/2 at time of closing; shares are still inquired for at \$118 without bringing many shares on the market. Kowloon Lands have found buyers at \$26 ex. dividend paid on the 7th inst. Hotels remain temporarily neglected with small sales, at \$120 and \$127, market closing quiet at quotation. West Points after further sales at \$39 and \$39 1/2 have changed hands at \$40, \$40 1/2. Closing with buyers at \$41 Humphreys Estates have been dealt in at \$10, and close with sellers at \$9.90.

COTTON.—Hongkong Cottons have been done at \$38 and \$37 closing with small buyers at the latter rate. Quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai circulars in the absence of local business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been placed at \$23 1/2 and \$29, Watsons at \$16 and \$16 1/2 (still enquired for), Electrics at \$11, \$11 1/2 and \$11 1/2. Fenwicks at \$48, Ices at \$165 and \$170 cum dividend, Campbell and Moores at \$15, and China Providents at \$9.25. China Borneos and Tramways could be placed at quotations. The following meetings of Public Companies are advertised, Humphreys Estate and Finance Company on 19th instant, China Fire Insurance Company on 8th March, and The National Bank of China on 10th March.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                        | PAID UP.  | QUOTATIONS.               |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|
| Banks—                          |           |                           |
| Hongkong & Shanghai             | \$125     | \$341.25, sellers         |
| China & Japan, ordv.            | 24        | 21, buyers                |
| Do. deferred                    | 21        | 25 1/2                    |
| Natl. Bank of China             |           |                           |
| B. Shares                       | 28        | 25                        |
| Four. Shares                    | 28        | 26                        |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.           | 21        | nominal                   |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.           | 10        | 16                        |
| China Prov. L. & M.             | 10        | \$9 15, buyers            |
| China Sugar                     | 100       | \$118, buyers             |
| Cotton Mills—                   |           |                           |
| Ewo                             | Tls. 100  | Tls. 60.                  |
| International                   | Tls. 100  | Tls. 67.                  |
| Laou Kung Mow                   | Tls. 100  | Tls. 68.                  |
| Soychee                         | Tls. 500  | Tls. 375.                 |
| Yahloong                        | Tls. 100  | Tls. 80.                  |
| Hongkong                        | \$100     | \$38, sellers             |
| Dairy Farm                      | 86        | 85, buyers                |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.             | 25        | \$48, sales & sellers     |
| Green Island Cement             | 10        | \$29, sellers             |
| H. & C. Bakery                  | 50        | \$25.                     |
| Hongkong & C. Gas               | 210       | \$127.                    |
| Hongkong Electric               | 10        | \$11 1/2, buyers          |
| H. H. L. Tramways               | \$'00     | \$152 1/2, buyers         |
| Hongkong Hotel                  | 50        | \$126, buyers             |
| Hongkong Ice                    | 25        | \$167 ex div., bys.       |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.              | 50        | \$84.                     |
| Hongkong Rope                   | 50        | \$27 1/2                  |
| H. & W. Dock                    | 125       | \$50 % prem. =            |
| Insurance—                      |           |                           |
| Canton                          | 50        | \$180, sellers            |
| China Fire                      | 20        | \$89, buyers              |
| China Traders'                  | 25        | \$50, sellers             |
| Hongkong Fire                   | 50        | \$33 1/2, sales & sellers |
| North-China                     | 25        | Tls. 18 1/2               |
| Straits                         | 20        | \$17, sellers             |
| Union                           | 50        | \$235, sellers            |
| Yangtze                         | 60        | \$117 1/2, buyers         |
| Land and Building—              |           |                           |
| Hongkong Land Inv.              | 50        | \$118 1/2, sellers        |
| Humphreys Estate                | 10        | \$9.90, sellers           |
| Kowloon Land & B.               | 30        | \$26, ex div. sellers     |
| West Point Building             | 50        | \$41, buyers              |
| Luzon Sugar                     | 100       | \$46.                     |
| Mining—                         |           |                           |
| Charbonnages                    | Fcs. 250  | \$350                     |
| Gt. Estn. & C'donian            | 1         | 92 1/2 cts, sellers       |
| Do. Preference                  | 1         | 40 cts, buyers            |
| Jebebu                          | 1         | \$18 1/2                  |
| Queen's Mines Ltd.              | 25c.      | 30 cts, sellers           |
| Olivers Mines, A.               | 5         | \$1 1/2, sellers          |
| Do. B.                          | 4 1/2     | \$4 70, buyers            |
| Punjom                          | 56        | \$5 1/2, buyers           |
| Do. Preference                  | 1         | \$1.30, buyers            |
| Raubs                           | 15s. 10d. | \$62, buyers              |
| New Amoy Dock                   | 60 1/2    | \$20 1/2, sellers         |
| Steamship Coys.—                |           |                           |
| China and Manila                | 50        | \$87, buyers              |
| China Mutual Pref.              | 210       | 210, buyers               |
| China Ordinary                  | 210       | 210, buyers               |
| Do.                             | 25        | 25, sales                 |
| Douglas Steamship               | 50        | \$48, sellers             |
| H., Canton and M.               | 15        | \$29 1/2, sellers         |
| Indo-China S. N.                | 210       | \$98, sellers             |
| Shell Transport and Trading Co. | 2100      | 2250                      |
| Star Ferry                      | 7 1/2     | \$5, sales & sellers      |
| Tebrau Planting Co.             | 3         | \$5, sellers              |
| Do.                             | 32        | 33.                       |
| United Asbestos                 | 10        | \$4 1/2, buyers           |
| Do.                             | 37 1/2    | \$10, nominal             |
| Wanchai Warehouse               | 10        | \$4 1/2, buyers           |
| Watkins, Ltd.                   | 10        | \$10 1/2                  |
| Watson & Co., A. S.             |           | \$16 1/2, buyers          |

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

## VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

|                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| For LONDON.—Bengal (str.).                                             |
| For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—Pyrrhus (str.).                                  |
| For MARSEILLES.—Salasia (str.), Wakasa Maru (str.).                    |
| For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Holsatia (str.).                                |
| For SAN FRANCISCO.—Carmarthenshire (str.), Gaelic (str.).              |
| For VANCOUVER.—Empress of India (str.).                                |
| For VICTORIA, B.C., VIA SHANGHAI.—Glenogle (str.), Idzumi Maru (str.). |
| For PORTLAND, O.—Abergeldie (str.).                                    |
| For NEW YORK.—Queen Eleanor (str.).                                    |
| For AUSTRALIA.—Astoria (str.).                                         |
| For SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.—Lightning (str.).                 |



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

## HONGKONG.

February—

## ARRIVALS.

2. St. Andrews, Norw. str., from Cardiff.
  3. Clyde, British str., from Bombay.
  3. Quarta, German str., from Saigon.
  3. Oyo Maru, Jap. str., from Keelung.
  3. Abergeldie, British str., from Portland.
  3. Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
  3. Yaeyama, Japanese cruiser, from a cruise.
  3. Iburi Maru, Jap. str., from Mororan.
  3. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Takow.
  3. Prosper, Norwegian str., from Sourabaya.
  3. Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
  4. Peiyang, German str., from Saigon.
  4. Tetartos, German str., from Saigon.
  4. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
  4. Tyr, Norwegian str., from Moji.
  5. Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., from S. Diego.
  5. Iltis, German gunboat, from Macao.
  6. Esmeralda, British str., from Manila.
  6. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
  6. Lightning, British str., from Calcutta.
  6. Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
  6. Tategami Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
  6. Gaelic, British str., from San Francisco.
  7. Sachsen, German str., from Shanghai.
  7. Bayern, German str., from Bremer.
  7. Benvenue, British str., from London.
  7. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
  7. Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
  7. City of London, British str., from Tacoma.
  7. Maidzuru Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
  7. Trieste, Austrian str., from Kobe.
  7. Ichang, British str., from Canton.
  7. Fushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
  8. Sado Maru, Japanese str., from London.
  8. Isaac Reed, Amr. ship, from New York.
  8. Robt. Dickinson, British str., from Palik Papan.
  8. Glengarry, British str., from Moji.
  8. Whampoa, British str., from Wuhu.
  8. Woosung, British str., from Canton.
  9. Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
  9. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
  9. Ancona, British str., from Singapore.
  9. Ariel, Norwegian str., from Moji.
  9. Canton, British str., from Java.
  9. Tsinan, British str., from Kobe.
  9. Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
- February— DEPARTURES.
2. Stanfield, British bark, for Rajang.
  2. Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
  3. Valetta, British steamer, for Europe.
  3. Aeo us, British str., for Guam.
  3. Asturia, German str., for Shanghai.
  3. Broad Mayne, British str., for P. Sembilan.
  3. Teenkai, British str., for Shanghai.
  3. Kalgau, British str., for Canton.
  3. Nanyang, German str., for Saigon.
  3. Valkyrien, Danish cruiser, for Shanghai.
  4. Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
  4. Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
  4. Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
  4. Braemar, British str., for Shanghai.
  4. Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
  4. Ariake Maru, Japanese str., for K'notzu.
  4. Clyde, British str., for Shanghai.
  4. Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
  4. Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.
  4. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
  4. Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
  4. Hating, French str., for Haiphong.
  4. Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
  4. Pronto, German str., for Saigon.
  4. Hainan, German str., for Saigon.
  5. Barfleur, British battleship, for W'haiwei.
  5. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
  5. Jason, British str., for Hankce.
  5. Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
  5. Nestor, British str., for Shanghai.
  5. Hertha, German cruiser, for Singapore.
  6. Amigo, German str., for Haiphong.
  6. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
  6. Hainan, German str., for Swatow.
  6. Belgian King, British str., for Hongay.
  6. Menelaus, British str., for London.
  6. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
  6. Chiuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
  6. Diamante, British str., for Manila.
  7. Elise, German str., for Saigon.
  7. Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
  7. Progress, German str., for Touron.
  7. Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.

7. Radnorshire, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Bayern, German str., for Shanghai.
8. Amoy, German str., for Kobe.
8. Oyo Maru, Japanese str., for Keelung.
8. Keelung Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
8. Keongwai, British str., for Swatow.
8. Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
8. P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
8. Peiyang, German str., for Saigon.
8. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
8. Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
8. Sachsen, German str., for Europe.
9. Brooklyn, Amr. cruiser, for Manila.
9. Sandakan, German str., for Sandakan.
9. Chunsang, British str., for Hongay.
9. Hitachi Maru, Japanese str., for London.
9. Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
9. Sado Maru, Japanese str., for Yokohama.
9. Ichang, British str., for Bangkok.
9. Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
9. Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
9. Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
9. Siam, British str., for Swatow.
9. Trieste, Austrian str., for Trieste.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

- Per *Diamante*, from Manila. Mr. Young, Mrs. J. Doyle, Mrs. Earnshaw and 2 children. Mr. Earnshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Stully and child. Messrs. Max Pactow, G. van Sant, N. G. van Sant, A. B. Tyre, Capt. Byron, U.S.A., and Mrs. Albert Field.
- Per *Idzumi Maru*, from Moji. Mr. Thos. Canty, Mrs. Ed. Livingston and Miss Helen Livingston.
- Per *Phra Chula Chom Klao*, from Bangkok. Mr. Jopson.
- Per *Glenogle*, from Moji. Mrs. Miller and 3 daughters.
- Per *Thales*, from Taiwanfoo, &c. Mrs. Smith.
- Per *Loongsang*, from Manila. Dr. A. G. Smith, Mrs. E. H. Smith, Messrs. T. H. Glover, V. de Miguel, A. Castañeda, G. T. Suly.
- Per *Clyde*, for Hongkong, from London. Col. L. F. Brown, Lt.-Col. M. R. Ryan; from Marseilles, Messrs. J. McDonald, W. L. Patten; from Colombo, Mr. W. H. Hamilton; from Bombay, Col. and Mrs. T. H. Newman. Messrs. S. D. Setna, D. H. Cooper; from Singapore, Messrs. F. L. Santos, L. M. Leefe, Sergeant Major and Mrs. Wieman and child, Messrs. A. H. Mohamed, A. and L. Omar, J. Rahim-tola; for Shanghai, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Barry, Dr. and Mrs. Eden Paul and child; from London, Messrs. J. Harwood, Sharples, James Needham; from Marseilles, Messrs. L. T. Morgan, Barker, F. H. Lowe, Sir George Goldie, H. Drexel; for Yokohama, from Ismailia, Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Tuckett; from London, Mr. and Mrs. Shoebridge and child, Mr. P. W. Richardson; from Colombo, Mrs. Drysdale, Mrs. A. M. Farrar; from Marseilles, Mr. J. Cruickshank; for Manila, from Marseilles, Mr. Carlos Defer.
- Per *Carmarthenshire*, from San Diego. Mrs. C. H. Busch, Messrs. M. Benison and A. F. Kerr.
- Per *Haimun*, from Tamsui, &c. Miss Colville, Messrs. MacHaffie and Hickey.
- Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila. Messrs. Levy, Chapman, Sands, Gunther, Capt. Fuller, Messrs. Martinez, Merino, Torillo, Castello, Psua, Rodriguez, Col. C. Bird, Mrs. Remedios and two children and Miss Noroack.
- Per *Lightning*, from Calcutta, &c. Lieut. Stoddart, Miss Mylan, Messrs. Hutchison and Mason.
- Per *Gaelic*, from San Francisco, &c. Mr. I. J. C. Anderson, Mrs. C. E. Hampton and child, Miss G. Hooper, Mrs. G. L. Painter, Miss F. L. Paschal, Mrs. G. Prescott, Captain C. M. Thomas, U.S.N., Messrs. E. F. Van Hootegen and W. J. Treat. Miss Brewer, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Davis and child, Miss Lewis, Messrs. G. J. Blatter, T. Tsunoda, P. S. King and N. J. Bies, Miss L. Henderson, Mr. Jos. Maresh, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Nichols and child, Mrs. R. H. Power, Mrs. L. P. Smith, Captain J. M. Vale, Mrs. E. M. Young, Mr. and Mrs. David Rice, Paymaster M. McDonald, U.S.N., and servant, Miss Gossey, Messrs. E. M. Schwabe, J. Ishi-wara, R. Fukao and C. Howard, Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Fortescue, Mrs. V. Turnpugh and Mrs. E. Munday.

Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports. Mrs. J. S. Roach and 2 children, Miss E. Newton, Messrs. Wallace, Schneider, O. Leok Chin and A. Ming.

Per *Sachsen*, from Yokohama, &c. Mr. A. M. Drake, Mrs. and Miss A. S. Rice, Mrs. Wright, Miss Penney, Miss Ellis, Messrs. L. E. Johnson, B. Harner, T. M. Basto, Mrs. Dowler, Messrs. A. J. H. Moule, W. A. H. Moule, T. Chandasbhey, P. A. Tararat, Herm. Wolff, Capt. R. C. Tod, Messrs. Exellens Ker-bets and L. A. Lyall, Mrs. and Miss Slade, Messrs. W. A. Chamberlain, G. M. Carty and Albert.

Per *Trieste*, from Kobe. Messrs. A. Hayd-mann and Del Medici.

Per *Bayern*, from Bremer, &c. Sir J. W. Carrington, Mr. and Mrs. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Fiddell, Mr. R. Kraft, Capt. H. Richards, Mr. G. Forrens, Mrs. Claude Watney, Mr. F. de Freitas Silva, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Oman and servant, Messrs. O. H. Dailly, H. Bathurst and family, W. Schmidt, H. Lenthold, Miss Wollermann, Messrs. S. Bromberger, R. Schlemitz, H. Landgrebe and Richelsen.

Per *Sado Maru*, from London. Mr. J. Oppen-heim, Lieut. H. S. Maberly, Messrs. A. Tanabashi, K. Nishimura, H. Bosch, Reitz, T. Miyaoka, Misses Key and Miyaoka and child, Messrs. S. Miura and K. Misubara, Mrs. Wylan, Miss Daisy Wylie, Miss Byron, Mr. H. Ellis, Miss L. Frey, Rev. W. B. Screanton and Mrs. Screanton.

Per *Whampoa*, from Wuhu, &c. Miss Witherston.

Per *Hailoong*, from Tamsui, &c. Messrs. Nichols and Bunan.

Per *Tsinan*, from Kobe, &c. Mr. Bowden and Mrs. Gilkerson and 2 children.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Valetta*, from Yokohama, for London. Mr. E. P. Belben; for Brindisi, Mr. H. H. Schleifenbaum; from Shanghai, for Singapore, Mr. Ho Kwong Tong; for Marseilles, Misses Powell, Eabott, Taylor, Rev. and Mrs. Hill and infant, Mrs. and two Masters Priortheroe, Master R. Jackson and Mr. G. W. Whiller; for London, Rev. and Mrs. Randle, two Misses Randle and Master Randle; from Hongkong, for London, Mrs. James Doyle, Sir William Hoste, Dr. Worthington, Messrs. Liddon, W. J. Johnston, R. E. Kozhevar, James Beattie, J. S. Sanderson, G. Smith, H. Hickish, Com-mander R. P. Cochran, Sergt.-Major Marsden and Staff-Sergt. Cronin; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Warren, Col. and Mrs. Woodhull, Misses O'Brien and A. M. Baker; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Henneberger, Mr. Henneberger, Jr. and Miss Henneberger; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Dusel, Messrs. G. and N. G. Vansant; for Penang, Mr. F. W. Danby; for Singapore, Messrs. R. Walter and W. Nicol.

Per *Rosetta*, for Nagasaki. Mrs. Leo. d. Miner; for Kobe, Messrs. T. Wantanabe and S. Masuda; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. A. Black, E. Blake, Mr. and Mrs. Berthold Pfeifer, Mr. and Mrs. Long Jack Kuen and child, Mrs. Long Jack Kuen.

Per *Clyde*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai. Mrs. Myburgh, Messrs. Henrik Cavling, E. Puissant, G. Hautol, A. Spencer Ellam, J. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Lawton, Mrs. Walter Miller and infant, Mrs. Tipp and 2 children and Mr. W. S. Jackson.

Per *Sungkiang*, for Manila. Mrs. Livingston and child, Messrs. G. G. Kiss, C. Deper, Thomas Canty, C. W. May, J. B. Carnduff and Capt. M. Bernson.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila. Dr. Stroug, Mrs. Andrews and servant, Messrs. A. B. Pierce and J. Logan Sample.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila. Mrs. Painter, Mrs. Hampton, Miss Paschal, Mrs. R. H. Power, Mrs. Ella Wood Young, Mr. Louis P. Smith, Messrs. Mitchell C. McDonald, U.S.N., N. J. Bies, E. F. Van Hootegen, J. M. Vale, Ernst H. Lenthold, Robert Schlainitz and Geo. Goldsmith.

Per *Sandakan*, for Sandakan. Mr. and Mrs. V. Klamburg, Messrs. Woodin, Isamonger, W. D. Jupp, O. Ecchholz, C. Georg, Sabbath, and Rev. J. Verbrugge.

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